THE

PAPERS

OF

ANDREW JACKSON

Volume 97
1836–1837
December 31 January 31

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December 31st 1836

Dr Uncle

I received as I went to my Mothers yesterday your kind letter of the 13th instant, enclosing the one which William Donelson had written, warning me of the fatal advance of the disease which deprived me of my dear wife, before I could unite with her again. Since my arrival I have not been from home, except to visit my mother and attend to some indispensable business in the neighborhood. My children enjoy good health except little Rachel who is still afflicted with eruptions on the back which made their appearance last summer when we were at Nashville, occasioned as we supposed by the bites of the mosquitoes. Her nurse Theresa thinks that she is mending: Theresa has proved an invaluable servant, having the management of the children and the house during the illness of Emily. She is willing to remain with them as long as I think her service necessary.

It is a great relief to me to discover from your letters that your health is improving. Your enemies at Nashville are very willing to believe the exaggerated statements which the letter writers publish respecting your situation. You are thank God beyond their power and have a shield in the justice and discernment of your country beneath which you can repose with calmness and contentment.

I took dinner ~~yesterday~~ with Parson Smith at my Mothers, who is the proprietor of the extensive religious press at Nashville, and who has printed for some time past the Nashville Union.

He informs me that Laughlin is still intemperate, and without a great change in his habits will destroy the usefulness of the paper he edits. I will go to Town to day expressly to see him, and endeavor to make some arrangement which will enable the friends of the administration to place his cause in a proper light before the people.

The weather still continues cold and the roads almost impassible. Your negroes have been allowed the whole week as a Holiday, and of course the business of the farm has been standing still.

I will write you as soon as I return from Nashville, if I am not allowed time to do so there. With my kind wishes to all your family and my prayers for Y. health

I remain Yrs affectionately
A J Donelson

Genl. Andrew Jackson

500
70
35000
15
175000.
35000
525000

5250
840
181 6090
2500
3590

12
500
6000
14
24000
6000
[illegible]4000

A. J. Donelson 136

Executive Department, Ala.
Tuskaloosa, Dec. 31st. 1836.

To the President of the United States:

Sir,

By a joint resolution, adopted by the Senate and House of Representatives of this State, at their late session, a copy of which you will find enclosed, I am requested to tender to you, in behalf of the people of Alabama, their high approbation of the firm, consistent, independent, and able manner in which you have performed the important duties of the Executive of the United States, during the period of your administration; and to inform you that the people of Alabama, through their Representatives, tender to you, on your retirement to private life, their respect, esteem, and best wishes for your future prosperity.

Having the honor to be the organ of my fellow citizens, in making this communication, I beg leave to avail myself of the occasion, to express my cordial concurrence in the sentiments of respect, esteem, and approbation, which they entertain toward you; and to add my sincere wish that you may long enjoy the peaceful calm of retirement, and

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witneſs the continued and beneficial operation of the principles and policy, which you have so successfully labored to establish.

I have the honor to be,
with the highest regard, D. Sir,
your friend & Obt. Svt.

C. C. Clay.

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Presᵗ A Jackson **Dr.**

1836 **To First Presbyterian Church,**

For rent of 1 **Pew, No.** 6 **for the quarter ending on the** 31

day of December **at \$** $32\frac{50}{100}$ **per annum, - - \$** $8.12\frac{1}{2}$

Received payment,

John Kennedy — *Treasurer.*

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No.

Washington, Decbr 31rst **1836.**

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to E. Tucker ***or Bearer,***

Thirty Eight ***Dollars*** $\frac{}{100}$.

Andrew Jackson

\$38 —

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~~M~~ President A Jackson **Dr.**

183*6* **To First Presbyterian Church,**

For rent of *1* Pew, No. for the quarter ending on the *31*
day of *Decembr/35* at $*32 50/100* per annum, - - $*8.12½*

Received payment,

20266 *John Kennedy* *Treasurer.*

Dec [1836

That time has not yet arrived with Texas - her numbers are few, ~~[illegible]~~ compared to that of Mexico - her struggle for Independence has just begun, and her ability to sustain it depends more upon the moral weakness of her adversary, ~~[illegible]~~ than her own ~~moral &~~ physical power - They are threatened with new invasions, in which the honor & pride of Mexico are involved ~~in the~~ ~~result~~. At this moment ~~it is~~ proposed that we acknowledge their independence, and take them into the union. It is probable that if we now comply with there request and accept the proffer, we bring upon us a war with Mexico, and the jealousy of the leading powers of Europe. Our peaceful country has nothing to gain in a war with Mexico - its conquest would be a curse to us & no glory is to be gained which would be worth its cost. It appears to me, therefore, that while we may as men indulge our sympathies toward ~~them~~, without giving just cause of offence it is our duty as a nation to stand aloof from the contest, as an impartial neutral, until Texas affords stronger evidence of her capacity to sustain her Independence - it is a ~~policy~~ of which neither party can complain - a policy which is consistant with all our maxims and the uniform practice of our government - one which we

Texas - attend -
A.J.

and in this state of facts, it is more difficult for us to seem so. It becomes us, therefore, to consider the course we purpose to pursue with unusual care that we may in fact be really just whatever we may seem to be.

Nothing is perceived in the report of our agent which would seem to justify a departure from the policy our country has heretofore pursued in similar cases. In the contest between Spain and her revolted provinces, we stood aloof in each case until the enemies of Spain were annihilated, her authorities driven out of the country. We waited until the power of the new communities to protect themselves was fully illustrated. It was then only that we recognised the Independence of Mexico. This state of things does not yet exist in Texas. It is true, the civil authorities of Mexico have been expelled, its invading military force defeated, the president of the Republic himself made prisoner and all present power to control the newly organised Government of of Texas annihilated within its confines. But these disasters, have only served to stimulate the Mexican Republic, to rally its greatly superior ~~superior~~ strength, to renew the contest. Formidable preparations ~~have been~~ are already made under a new Executive & leader for the recovery of the lost power of Mexico over the province of Texas. Upon the result of this threatened renewed conflict the question of the power of Texas to—

to maintain her independence, may be justly said to depend. While the arbitrament of this issue is in progress, it appears to me, that although we may as individuals indulge our sympathies, for a neighbouring people, connected with us by the ties of kindred, & distinguished by the same political principles, domestic habits, & social feelings; it is yet our duty, as a nation, to stand aloof from the contest. Our proper attitude is that of impartial neutrality. Should the time ever arrive when the people of Texas shall have carried into successful operation, the Government they have originated, & shall have given proof of their ability to defend and establish it, independent of the threatened invasion, then we will occupy a position to give the weight of authority to the fact, by our recognition. To interfere at this moment might be construed into a willingness to become a party to the war. It might serve as a pretext to Mexico to proclaim hostilities against the United States and seek to involve the transatlantic nations in the struggle by creating the impression, that this country sought a dangerous agrandisement prejudicial to their interests in this Hemisphere. It is the duty of the public ~~functionaries~~ authorities of this country to do no act affording the least countenance to suspicions, which under such existing circumstances it would become the interest of Mexico to propagate—our peaceful and prosperous country has no ambition to gratify in foreign conquests;—It has no interest which would lead it to sacrifice its untarnished faith to extend its Government, by conquest, over a wider dominion, and it will never seek such glory as is to be obtained, at the price of principle. This is a policy of which neither party can justly complain—a policy which is consistent with all our maxims and the uniform practice of our government—one which [illegible] secures us the respect of other nations—gives us influence and strength in our intercourse with them, and what is more valuable, secures our own self respect and gives confidence and moral force to our government at home.

If however, the Senate and House of Representatives, after mature deliberation, [illegible] shall come to a different conclusion from that indicated by me, it will be my duty in a matter appertaining to their province, to carry their [illegible] decision

decision into effect which I will perform with promptitude & pleasure

[illegible]
Interfering -
- Decides Inde[illegible]
=ment
To be preserved
A. J.

Dec. 1836

The Report of the Postmaster General presents a gratifying picture of the condition of the Post Office Department. ~~The~~ Its revenues ~~of the department~~ for the year ending 30th June last were $3.387.672, and its ~~the~~ expenditures $. The increase of ~~revenue~~ over that of the preceding year was $354.114, or more than thirteen per cent. The Department has been redeemed from embarrassment and debt, has accumulated a surplus exceeding half a million of dollars in cash, has largely extended and is preparing still further to extend the mail service, and recommends a reduction of postages equal to about twenty per cent. It is practising upon the great principle which should control every branch of our government, of rendering to the public the greatest good possible with the least possible ~~expense~~ taxation of the people.

The scale of postages suggested by the Postmaster General recommends itself, not only by the reduction it proposes, but by the simplicity of its arrangement, its conformity with the federal currency, and the improvement it will introduce into the accounts of the Department and its agents.

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Particular attention is invited to the subject of mail contracts with Rail Road Companies. The present laws providing for the making of contracts, are based upon the presumption that competition among bidders will secure the service at a fair price. But on most of the Rail Road lines, there is no competition in that kind of transportation, and advertising is a mockery. No contract can now be made with them except such as shall be negotiated before the time of offering or afterwards, and the power of the Postmaster General to pay them high prices is practically without limitation. It would be a relief to him and no doubt would conduce to the public interest to prescribe by law some equitable basis upon which such contracts shall rest and restrict him by a fixed rule of allowance. Under a liberal act of that sort, he would undoubtedly be able to secure the services of most of the Rail Road Companies, and the interest of the Department would be greatly advanced.

The correspondence between the people of the United States and of the European nations, particularly those of the British

Islands, has become very extensive and requires the interposition of Congress to give it security. No obstacle is perceived to an interchange of mails between New York and Liverpool or other foreign ports as proposed by the Postmaster General. On the contrary, it promises by the security it will afford, to ~~enlarge the~~ facilitate commercial transactions and give rise to an enlarged intercourse among the people of different nations, which cannot but have a happy effect. Through the ~~[illegible]~~ City of New York, most of the correspondence between the Canadas and Europe is now carried on, and ~~the deputy postmaster~~ urgent representations have been received from the Head of the Provincial Post Office, asking the interposition of the government of the United States to guard it from the serious accidents and losses to which it is now subjected. Some legislation appears to be called for as well by our own interest as by comity to the adjoining British Provinces.

The expediency of providing a fireproof building for the important books and papers of the Post Office Department is worthy of

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consideration. In the present condition of our Treasury it is neither necessary nor wise to leave important public interests exposed to so much danger when they can ~~[illegible]~~ so readily be made secure. In the location of a new Post Office, there are weighty considerations in favor of placing it near the other principal Departments.

Sir----The Democratic Citizens of Pittsburgh and vicinity, having resolved to commemorate the approaching Anniversary of the glorious victory of Orleans----an event as distinguished in the life of **ANDREW JACKSON**, as brilliant in our National History, have thought it a fit occasion to unite in celebration of the decisive triumphs achieved by the Democratic party in the recent elections. Although opposed by as powerful a combination of the aristocratic and monied influences, and aspirants for privileged orders as ever threatened the liberties of any country, the virtue and firmness of the Democratic party have enabled them to triumph over every obstacle, and to secure, in the certain prospect of the election of **MARTIN VAN BUREN** and **RICHARD M. JOHNSON**, a guarantee for the preservation of Democratic principles, embracing the salvation of civil liberty; a just equality of rights; well-guarded limitations of power; and an administration of the Government fully harmonizing with the will of the People. There is therefore great cause for the Patriot to rejoice, and glorious reason to associate the celebration of this auspicious event, with that of the 8th of January.

Not doubting that you heartily unite with us in these sentiments, we would respectfully invite you to join in a Democratic Celebration, and partake of a Supper to be given on the 9th of January next, at the Washington Coffee House in this city.

Very respectfully,

His Excellency
Genl. Andrew Jackson

A. BRACKENRIDGE,
T. B. DALLAS,
JAMES P. STUART,
E. J. ROBERTS,
SAMUEL FREW,
LEONARD S. JOHNS,
JOHN TURBET,
MICHAEL M'SHARRY,
ROBERT GLASS,
JOHN BIRMINGHAM,
Z. McDONALD,
CHAMBERS M'KIBBIN,
WM. H. SMITH,
THOS. HAMILTON,
J. K. MOOREHEAD,
DAVID LYNCH,

Committee.

Pittsburgh, December, 1836.

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Invitation to the
President to a
Celebration of the
8 of Janry 1837 at
Pittsburg
Pa

Answer sent 4 of
January copy
written to be pre=
served A. J.

Excellency
Genl. Andrew Jackson
President U.S.
Washington City

PITTS

FREE

Dec. 1836

(the whole property of the country, taking from the rich and giving to the poor, and thus producing and preserving an equal distribution of property throughout the union?)

Although the consequences of this plan of distribution are but partially developed in the direction which has been given to the surplus revenue now on hand, they are sufficient to account for many of the evils of which a portion of the people are complaining. The Government has without necessity taken from the people about thirty millions of their property, and instead of employing it as heretofore and returning it to them by means of the public expenditures, it has been placed in sundry Banks. These Banks have proceeded to make loans upon these this thirty millions and thus in effect have converted it into Banking capital. Added to the increased capitals granted by the several

a

states, it has tempted the Banks to make inordinate loans, and these loans have stimulated, if they have not originated, the spirit of speculation and Gambling which now pervades the ~~are spreading demoralization throughout~~ our country ~~land~~. The possession and use of ~~this~~ these thirty millions belonged to the people, but the Government has transferred its possession and use to incorporated Banks whose business it is to make great dividends by it. (The Government has in effect seized upon thirty millions of property and converted it suddenly into Banking capital, not for the benefit of the true owners, the people, but for the benefit of corporations and speculators.) It is only necessary to state such an operation to illustrate its injustice and bad policy.

Other incidental but equally striking

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evils spring from this process. About three four fifths of all the duties on imports are paid in the city of New York; but they are in fact collected from every quarter of the Union. Every man in every State who purchases and consumes an article which has paid a duty at that port contributes to the accumulating mass. A surplus collected there is, therefore, made up of monies or property withdrawn from other points and other states. Thus the wealth and business of every region from which these surplus funds proceed, are, in a greater or less degree crippled and diminished, while the Banking and other business of the place where the funds are concentrated are proportionally extended. When the time for distribution arrives the funds must be again withdrawn from use and sent back to the points whence they came: and it is the natural effect of such a process of transfer and retransfer to produce fluctuations in the business of the country as favorable to speculation as they are detrimental to the interests of regular trade. The same inconveniences must be felt in a similar degree, wherever, and by whatever means, the surplus may be collected, and they are aggravated by the circumstance, that while the transfers are in progress the funds ~~cannot~~ be brought into use by their rightful owners or any one else. When a Government promotes by its laws operations of such a character it travels out of its legitimate sphere. Its function in a free country is the protection of all in the possession and enjoyment of life liberty and property; and it cannot take the property of one to give or lend it to another without disturbing all the elements on which depend the peace and prosperity of society

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Similar and equally strong objections appear to me to apply to all the plans which have been suggested ~~[illegible]~~ of distributing the surplus revenue among the States. Under our system of indirect taxation it will never be possible to ascertain the exact sum contributed by each state to the public revenue. No rule of distribution would probably approximate nearer to justice than one which would take the proportions of the representative population of the several states which is the basis of direct taxation: But to raise money by duties on imports for the purpose of distributing it by this rule would be manifestly unjust; and to raise it for the same purpose by direct taxation would involve the absurdity of taking money from the pockets of the people in order that it might be returned to them a year afterwards with a deduction of salaries, commissions, and losses.

no leſs than the sum of $1.486.291, or nearly 5 per cent of the whole amount to be distributed is taken from one set of states to which it belongs and given to another which have no right to it. Nine states will receive leſs than belongs to them by this sum, while seventeen states will receive more. If the sum distributed be greater than 30 millions the inequality will be then proportionably increased It will take $1.486.291 of the property of Maſsachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tenneſsee, Kentucky & Ohio, and give it to Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Georgia, Alabama, Miſsiſsippi, Louisiana, Indiana, Illinois, Miſsouri, Arkansas, and Michigan. While Maſsachusetts will lose $98.573, Rhode Island will gain $165.004. While New York will lose $514.263, New Jersey will gain $15.935. While Penna will lose $311.438, Delaware will gain $117.400. While Virginia will lose $213.701, Miſsiſsippi will gain $132.067. While Ohio would lose $203.620, Michigan would gain $227.002. North Carolina would lose $69.933

South Carolina $15.957 – Kentucky $25.113 – and Tennessee $33.697 – for the benefit of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri and other small states. Upon the ratio of the Deposite bill, therefore, a distribution would give to the large states much less than belongs to them and to the small states much more.

The effect of this system cannot be too carefully traced. It may be still further shewn in the cases of Rhode Island and Delaware. Of every $30.000.000 of revenue, the state of Rhode Island, according to the ratio of direct taxation, pays into the Treasury $243.159, and the state of Delaware $188.916. In a distribution upon the ratio of the Deposite Bill Rhode Island would receive back $408.163, and Delaware $306.122. Thus one of these states gains by the operation $165.004, and the other $117.406. Under these circumstances those states and the other small states would have undertake to pay their proportionate expenses of that Government and support those of the small States besides. Such an obligation was never conceded nor required, and a system which would produce such a result would plainly violate the spirit and intention of the Constitution.

There is another point of view in which a distribution upon the ratio of the Deposite bill would violate the fundamental compact (articles of partnership) between the States. The Constitution declares that all "duties, imposts and excises" shall "be uniform throughout the United States." All will agree that it is the object of this provision to make the burden of taxation for the support of the Federal Government fall as equally as possible upon the people of the United States in whatever state they may reside. But what is the value of such a uniform rule of taxation, if the moneys raised by it may be immediately returned by a different rule which will

States would, in the distribution of $30.000.000 receive $211.696 more than their share, while the four Southern states, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia would receive $252.455 less than belongs to them. The State of Louisiana for the protection of whose sugar the rest of the union pays a high duty on that article would not only have the benefit of the protection, but would receive in addition the sum of $80.127 more than belongs to her.

Of the same character too is its operation upon the labor of the States which was supposed to bear the burden of the Tariff because it was taxed without receiving a corresponding compensation in the manufactured products of the country. In addition to this sacrifice it is evident that the distribution of the surplus revenue as proposed would require them to make another; because there would be two fifths of their labor struck out in the computation on which the ratio of distribution is established. Thus the States who receive all the benefits of the protecting duty would receive also all the cash brought into the Treasury by those duties, while the burden would be increased on the States whose industry receives no protection. If one portion of the union had just grounds to complain of a protecting tariff when its proceeds were applied to the legitimate objects of the general Government, how much greater will be their cause of complaint when those proceeds are given to the States that have all the benefits of the protection? Equity would seem to demand that

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Dec. 1830(?)

States would, in the distribution of $30.000.000, receive $211.696 more than their share, while the four Southern states, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia would receive $252.455 less than belongs to them. The State of Louisiana, for the protection of whose sugar the rest of the Union pays a high duty upon that article, would not only have the benefit of the protection, but would receive in addition the sum
x of $80.127 more than belongs to her. Thus the States who receive all the benefits of the protecting duty would receive also the cash brought into the Treasury by those duties, thus doubling the tax on the states whose industry receives no protection. If one portion of the Union had just grounds to complain of a protecting tariff when its proceeds were applied to the legitimate objects of the general government, how much greater will be their complaint when those proceeds are given to the states that have all the benefits of the protection? Equity would seem to demand that

the disparity should be on the other side.

If the surplus be confined to the proceeds of the sales of the public lands the objection to its distribution on such a principle loses none of its force. Those lands were the gift of some of the large states to the union upon the explicit condition that their proceeds should be devoted to the common benefit of the United States. Generally, the small States had no waste lands to give and yet they were enabled by the liberality of their larger sisters to participate in the benefits of this common fund. It is therefore plainly incompatible with the letter as well as the spirit of the compacts of cession, that they shall receive and enjoy more than their common portion of this donation. Upon the ratio of taxation Rhode Island is entitled to $243.159 as her due proportion of the $30.000.000, while by the ratio of the deposite bill she would receive $408.163: ~~[illegible]~~ Delaware would receive $306.122 though which should ever remain with the people. To take from the nation the right of having arms, and put its weapons of defence in the hands of a standing army, would be little less dangerous to liberty, than to permit the Government to accumulate immense amounts of Treasure beyond the supplies wanted for the support of Government. It would undoubtedly be used at sometime, as such means had always been used, when opportunity tempted ambition. – The corrupt influence in Government has proved more powerful in free States and more ruinous than the highest perogative in the most despotic. When all history is a warning of the danger with which this glutting of a Government with money is pregnant, it is a matter of astonishment, that a great and intelligent nation should submit to be taxed however indirectly to produce such result. The means employed to draw together such a fund is itself a source of mischievous influence and the distribution of it is the mode in which to appropriate them to individual and political objects—in a word to do as other men in similar circumstances have done, make plausible professions of a disinterested anxiety to restore the excess to the humble hand of labor from which it was wantonly wrung, while in fact it is diverted to subserve the purposes of the selfish, the cunning and the ambitious? The operation of such a system cannot fail to bring about the degeneracy which in other free states has gradually undermined their public virtue and with it its guardian institutions.

These general observations appear to me to have been called for by the present condition of the country. Should they fail to satisfy Congress of the propriety of the remedies suggested in regard to the the surplus revenue and the excessive issues of the Banks, they will yet I trust, ~~secure~~ devote to the subject rather rather ~~discretion in the exercise of~~ than meddle with a question so full of dan

presenting a rule for its disposal. No authority to collect a revenue for the purpose of distribution is now contained in the constitution, and it is obvious that the Federal authorities cannot give to the state Legislatures a discretion in this respect which they do not themselves possess. It is obvious also that if the power of making a distribution were conferred or conveyed by a constitutional amendment, the rule of distribution should also be established, specifying the objects of distribution and leaving nothing to Legislation ~~as~~ but the declaration ~~some~~ of sum of of the amount of surplus. In this way the evils of the scheme might be a plan of distribution which would ~~But as I have stated before~~ ~~arise out of a legislative discretion~~ distribution of surplus destroy the checks involved in the responsibility of those who ~~and the abuses inevitable from the operation of the principle~~ lay & those taxes, might possibly be corrected. But ~~Which would take away along out of the the~~ of distribution might possibly be modified: but

The expansions and contractions of the currency arising from the multiplication and mal-administration of the Banks, have displayed the true character of their issues, as a standard of value. The standard has varied from year to year accordingly as the condition of the Banking system has varied - prices have risen or fallen just as the tide of the Bank issues ebbed or flowed. Some years for instance those succeeding the overdealing and the great speculations in the stock of the Bank of the United States, were distinguished by the extraordinary depression of property - universal pressure and the ruin of thousands of industrious and well doing citizens - such periods have always been preceded by excessive issues - excessive prices - and overtrading in property and stocks.

The progress of an expansion - or rather an adulteration of the currency by Bank issues - is attended throughout by a depredation on the earnings of the laboring classes.

This -

These general observations appear to me to ~~be~~ have been called for by the present condition of the country. Should they fail to satisfy Congress of the propriety of the only remedy suggested in regard to the ~~remedies suggested~~ evils of a surplus revenue and the excessive issues of the Banks, I cannot doubt that they will at least recommend to the subject that careful examination which will lead to the adoption of some plan better calculated than the deposite act of the last session to prevent the injurious consequences ~~the~~ ~~here~~ described. If from the conflicting interests of our diversified country it should be found impracticable to effect ~~such~~ ~~the~~ a reduction of the taxes sufficient to prevent the accumulation of revenue, it will obviously become the duty of Congress at once to appeal to the States for an amendment of the constitution ~~which~~

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This portion of the community have neither time nor opportunity to look to and comprehend the movements of the money markett. Engaged from day to day in their useful toils they do not perceive, that although their ~~wages~~ wages are nominally the same, they are greatly reduced in fact, by the rapid increase of a spurious currency, which as it appears to make money abound, they are at first inclined to consider a blessing.. The speculators in commodities and real property find their account in this. They watch the money markett & raise their prices but it is not until the prices of the necessaries of life become so dear, that the Laboring classes cannot supply their wants out of their wages, that the wages rise and gradually reach a justly proportioned rate to that of the products of their Labor. When thus by the depreciation in consequence of the quantity of paper in circulation, wages as well as prices become exorbitant, it is soon found that the whole amount of adulteration is a Tariff-

Dec 1836

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The dispassionate consideration of the state of things which has arisen from the surplus of revenue now on hand, will, it is believed, satisfy any one that its accumulation is the source of many of the evils of which a portion of our people so loudly complain. The government has, without necessity, taken from the people about thirty millions of their property. Instead of being ~~employing~~ ~~the money~~ it as heretofore and returned ~~it~~ to them, by means of the public ~~[illegible]~~ ~~through its several~~ expenditures, it has been placed ~~it~~ in sundry Banks. Those Banks have proceeded to make loans upon the strength of these deposites; and thus thirty millions of the people's property have in effect been ~~they~~ ~~have become~~ ~~in effect a part~~ converted into ~~of the~~ banking capital of the country. These thirty millions of effective capital, with the increased capitals granted ~~or bank increased~~ ~~additional made~~ by the several states, have tempted the Banks to make inordinate loans; and these loans ~~which~~ have stimulated, if they did not originate, the spirit of speculation and gambling which pervades and demoralizes ~~[illegible]~~ land. The possession and use of this money or property belonged to the people. But the government has given its possession and use to the Banks, who have made great dividends by it. The government has in effect seized thirty millions of property and converted it suddenly into banking capital, not for the benefit of its true owners, but for the benefit of corporations and speculators who are thus enabled to make money by using the property of others. It requires no argument to illustrate the injustice and bad policy of such an operation.

Another incidental evil springs from this process. About four
fifths of all the duties on imports are paid in New York;
but they are in fact collected from every quarter of the
union. Every man in every state who purchases and
consumes an article which has paid a duty at that ~~port~~,
contributes to the accumulating mass. A surplus col-
lected at that point, therefore, is made up of moneys
or property withdrawn from other points and other
states. Thus the wealth and business of every region from
which these surplus funds proceed, are, in a greater
while the banking, and other business of the place where the funds are ~~Until the time~~
or less degree, crippled and diminished; ~~When~~ the time for distribution arrives, the
contracted, is proportionally ~~extended~~. ~~When funds~~ ~~it be thrown back to~~
~~for distribution however, they~~ ~~must~~ ^ use ~~it~~ and sent back to
funds must be again withdrawn from These transfers and retrans-
the points whence they came.
fers of such large sums of money, cannot be carried
on without creating constant fluctuations in the busi-
ness of the country as favorable to speculation as
they are detrimental to the interests of regular trade.

The same inconveniencies must arise in a greater
and by whatever means, the surplus
or less degree, wherever ^ ~~the funds~~ may be collected;
and they are aggravated by the circumstance, that
while the transfers are in progress, the funds cannot
be brought into use by their rightful owners or
any one else.

In all ~~these~~ such operations, government travels out of

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Dec. 1836 (7)

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By the report of the Secretary of the Treasury it will be perceived that preparations have been made to execute the act of the last session of Congress for depositing a portion of the Public Moneys in the Treasuries of the several States. The amount to be thus deposited is estimated at $30.000.000, leaving 5.000.000 in the ~~money~~ deposite Banks of ~~of the~~ the United States on the first day of January next. The unexpended balances of appropriations on that day are estimated at $15.000.000 exceeding the amount left in the ~~Treasury~~ Banks by $10.000.000. Unless, therefore, the future receipts shall be sufficient to meet these outstanding demands as well as the appropriations made at the present session of Congress, it will soon become necessary to use a portion of the funds deposited with the states.

The consequences apprehended when the deposite act of the last session received a reluctant approval, have been measurably realized. Though ~~palpably~~ an act merely for the deposite of the surplus moneys of the United States in the State Treasuries for safekeeping until wanted for the service of the general government, it has been extensively and in some states officially spoken of as an act to give the money to the several states, and they have been advised to use it as their own without regard to the means of refunding it when called for by its rightful owner.

It is hoped the states will not listen to suggestions so

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disreputable to our country, but, contents to profit by the use of the funds while in their custody, will so employ them that they may be promptly returned whenever required by the general government. To anticipate that they will receive and use these moneys without any intention to return them, is to suppose them regardless of law, of public faith and of moral obligation. With the same right may any deposite Bank or any individual entrusted temporarily with the keeping of public moneys, apply them to his own use and set the demands of the~~se~~ government ~~rightful owners~~ at defiance.

The probability that our present revenue systems will continue to yield a large annual surplus beyond the wants of the general government, renders it necessary to consider whether this accumulation shall be permitted to continued or whether our laws shall be so modified as to reduce the revenue to our actual necessities.

If the surplus be permitted to accumulate, what shall be done with it? It must be retained in the Treasury or distributed among the people or the states.

To retain it in the Treasury literally is impossible, because it would soon amount to more than all the circulating medium of the country.

To collect it for distribution among the people would be folly and injustice. It would be folly to require the people to pay taxes to the government merely that they might be paid back again. Nothing would be gained by it, even if each man ~~promptly~~ received back the sum paid by him. But no system can be devised which will ~~would~~ enable him promptly to receive

A collection for the purpose of distribution upon the ratio adopted in the deposite Bill of the last session would be one of the most unjust, ~~iniquitous~~ and unconstitutional which could be devised. Let it be assumed ~~admitted~~ for the sake of argument, that the surplus moneys to be deposited with the states have been collected ~~[illegible]~~ and belong to them ~~in~~ the ratio of their federal representative population — an assumption ~~[illegible]~~ warranted by the fact, that any deficiencies in our future revenue from imports and public lands, must be made up by direct taxes collected from the states in that ratio. It is proposed to distribute these $30.000.000, not according to the ratio in which the money ~~it~~ has been collected and belongs to the states, but in that of their votes in the colleges of electors of President and Vice President. The effect of a distribution upon that ratio ~~is shown~~ by the annexed table marked A. By inspection of that table it will be perceived, that in the distribution of $30.000.000 upon that basis, no less than the sum of $1.486.291 ~~or nearly~~ five per cent of the whole amount to be distributed, is ~~which belongs to~~ ~~one set of states or~~ taken from one sett of states to which it belongs and given to another which ~~transferred and given to another. Nine states get~~ have no right to it. Nine states get less than belongs to them by that mean, while seventeen states get more. It ~~would~~ take $1.486.291 of the property of Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio and give it to Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas ~~and~~ Michigan. While Massachusetts would lose $98.573, Rhode Island would gain $165.004. While New York would lose $514.263, New Jersey

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would gain $15.935. While Pennsylvania would lose $311.438, Delaware would gain $117.406. While Virginia would lose $213.701, ~~Louisiana~~ Mississippi would gain ~~$122~~.667. While Ohio would lose $203.622, Michigan would gain $227.002. North Carolina would lose $69.933, S. Carolina $15.951 Kentucky 25.113 and Tennessee $33.697 ~~would, lose about $~~ ~~and~~ for the benefit of ~~Mississippi~~ Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri and other small states. Upon the ratio of the Deposite Bill, therefore, a distribution would give to the large states much less than belongs to them and to the ~~small~~ states much more.

The practical effect of such a system is worthy of careful consideration. It may be illustrated in the cases of Rhode Island and Delaware. Of every $30.000.000 of revenue the state of Rhode Island upon the ratio of direct taxation, pays into the Treasury $243.159 and the state of Delaware $188.716. By a distribution upon the ratio of the Deposite Bill, Rhode Island would receive back $408.163 and Delaware $306.122. Thus, one of these states would gain $165.004 by the operation, and the other $117.406. Upon such a plan of collecting ~~[illegible]~~ and distributing the revenue, these and other small states would have an interest in raising ~~[illegible]~~ the taxes as high as possible, because they would get back more than they would pay. The effect would be virtually to release them

from taxation altogether, even to support their own state
governments; ~~But~~ and the sum thus gained by them would be lost
by the large states. It would be taking the property of the
people of one state and giving it to the people of
another. Upon the large states would be thrown the
burden, not only of supporting the governments of their
own states and of the United States, but also, those of the small
states.

In this respect, such a distribution would be in gross violation
of the terms of partnership between the states, as evidenced
by the federal compact. ~~While~~ The great states conceded
to the small an inequal ~~dis~~proportion of political power in
one branch of the federal legislature ~~government~~; but they did not
undertake to pay all ~~the~~ expenses of that government
and support those of the ~~small~~ states into the bargain.
No such obligation was ever conceded or required, and
a system which should produce such results, would be
in palpable violation of the evident spirit and intention
of the constitution.

There is another point of view in which a distribution
upon the ratio of the deposite Bills would violate the
articles of partnership between the states. In those
articles it is declared, that all "duties, imposts and excises,
shall be uniform throughout the United States." The object
of this provision cannot be mistaken. It is that the

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foreign taxation altogether, even to support their own state governments; ~~but~~ and the sum thus gained by them would be lost by the large states. It would be taking the property of the people of one state and giving it to the people of another. Upon the large states would be thrown the burden, not only of supporting the governments of their own states, and of the United States, but also, those of the small states.

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There is another point of view in which a distribution upon the ratio of the deposite Bill would violate the articles of partnership between the states. In those articles it is declared, that all "duties, imposts and excises, shall be uniform throughout the United States." The object of this provision cannot be mistaken. It is that the burden of taxation for the support of the federal government, shall fall equally, as nearly as may be ~~the nature of the case will admit~~ upon the people of the United States in whatever state they may ~~might~~ reside. But what is the value of this uniform rule of taxation if the money raised by it may be immediately returned ~~to the people~~ by a different rule which will give to the people of a portion of the states much more than they pay? Such a measure would as directly defeat the object of the constitution as if the general government were expressly to exempt the imports, products and manufactures of some states altogether, while imposing heavy duties, imposts and excises on the others. This principle of distribution goes further: It not only virtually exempts the small states from taxation, but gives them a good ~~large~~ portion of the money raised by ~~their imposts~~ from the people of the large states. It taxes Massachusetts $98.573 more than her share and gives it to Rhode Island. It taxes Pennsylvania $311.438 more than her share and gives $117.406 of it to Delaware. ~~Maryland~~ It taxes Virginia $213.701 more than her share and gives $132.067 of it to Mississippi. ~~Louisiana~~ It taxes Ohio $203.622 more than her share and gives ~~$~~ it to Michigan. The same operation is carried through all the states. ~~of it to Michigan. So are Newyork North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee taxed for the benefit of Arkansas, Missouri and other small states.~~

back the same sum. To collect and distribute would require time. The public agents employed in the process must be paid their salaries and commissions, and the money in passing through different hands would be subject to losses and depredation. For every dollar paid, each of the people might expect to get back a year afterwards seventy five cents, so that the practical effect of the system would be to deprive them of the use of the whole sum for a year ~~and~~ to be then returned ~~it~~ with a deduction of one fourth, not for any beneficial purpose, but merely to swell the profits of the deposite Banks and ~~[illegible]~~ support a band of useless public officers. But ~~an~~ ~~equal~~ a distribution to the people on any practicable scheme would be unjust. It would be taking one man's property and giving it to another. To return to each man precisely what he paid, is impracticable; for, although we know that our citizens contribute very unequally to the public revenue, it is not possible under our system, to ascertain the precise amount of any man's contribution. No rule but one of ~~perfect~~ equality is spoken of or could be adopted for a distribution among the people. That rule is ~~equal~~ in principle agrarian in the most offensive sense – it is the principle of an equal division of property. The general government would be made the instrument to carry this principle into effect. It has now collected thirty millions of the property of the country, taking from one man a hundred dollars, from another twenty, another five and another nothing, and this accumulation it, is ~~not~~ proposed to divide equally among the contributors. If the government may thus collect and distribute thirty millions, why not three hundred or three thousand? Why not the whole property of the country ~~[illegible]~~, taking from the rich and giving to the poor and thus producing and preserving an equal distribution of property throughout the union? The collection & among and distribution of any sum, rests on the same general principle ~~at all as object of producing such a result in any degree, government travels out of its appropriate sphere. Its business is to protect all in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property, and not to take the property of one and give it to another. A government which produces that result, is one of plunder and not of protection.~~

(Here insert A. 1.)

It is equally impossible to fix on a just rule of distribution among the states, because the exact sum ~~paid~~ contributed by each state ~~com-~~ under our system of indirect taxation, cannot be ascertained. ~~not be ascertained~~ The nearest approximation to justice would probably be to take the proportions of the representative populations of the several states which is the basis of ~~[illegible]~~ direct taxation. To raise money by duties on imports for the purpose of distributing it ~~them~~ by this rule, would be palpably unjust, and to raise it ~~them~~ for such a purpose by direct taxation would involve all the objections to taking money from the pockets of the people for the mere purpose returning it a year afterwards with deduction of salaries, commissions and losses, ~~a year afterwards~~.

its legitimate sphere. Its busineſs is to protect all in the poſseſsion and enjoyment of life, liberty and property, and not to take the property of one to give or lend it to another. A government which produces such results, is one of plunder and not of protection.

9000

4800

750 — 5
600
500
1850
500
2350
600
2950 = 3000.

56
20
36

60 = 0
25
36
121
50
171

70 =
20
40
130. corn

The collection of a revenue for distribution upon any ratio, is not only absurd if it be equal and unjust if it be not, but is in palpable violation of the evident design of the constitution in conferring on Congress the taxing power. The only objects for which taxes can be laid are clearly set forth; viz. "To pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States." There is no such absurd provision as would authorize Congress to collect together the property of the country under the name of revenue, for the purpose of dividing it equally or unequally among the states or the people. Indeed, it is not probable that the idea of such an absurdity ever occurred to the states when they adopted the constitution. At that day it could not have been conceived, that the people or the states would tolerate such a system, or that it would ever become the interest of any considerable portion of them to introduce or uphold it. But in our constitution silence on any subject is itself a prohibition, and consequently the raising of a revenue for distribution as well as the distribution of a revenue already raised, is to be considered among the prohibited powers.

There are other commanding reasons why such a system should not be permanently resorted to, even if it were constitutional.

It cannot be doubted, that the simplicity and economy of the state governments mainly depend on the fact that money has to be raised to support them by the same men who vote it away in appropriations. If they make extravagant and wasteful appropriations, they are under an immediate necessity to increase the taxes. In this manner the people are ~~thus~~ awakened to their conduct and are induced to scrutinize the character of the measures which thus increase their burthens. By the watchful eye of direct interest, the agents of the people in the state governments are repressed and kept within the limits of a rigid economy. But if the necessity ~~responsibility~~ of laying the taxes be taken from those who make the appropriations and thrown upon a more distant and less responsible set of public agents who have power to approach the people by an indirect and stealthy taxation, it is to be feared that the economy and simplicity of our state governments will be superseded by prodigality and pomp. The state legislatures, instead of studying to restrict their state expenditures to the smallest possible sum, will claim credit for their profusion and harrass the general government for increased supplies. Practically, there would soon be but one taxing power in the Union, vested in a body of men and that far removed from the people, in which the farming and mechanic interests would ~~[illegible]~~ scarcely be represented. The states would lose their purity as well as their independence; they would not dare to murmur at the proceedings of the general government lest they should lose their supplies; all would be merged in a practical consolidation, cemented by wide-spread corruption ~~[illegible]~~ could only be eradicated by one of those bloody revolutions which occasionally overthrow the corrupt systems of the old world.

It should not be forgotten, that our surplus revenue is
in some degree the product of a protecting tariff which has
been supposed to operate prejudicially to the south and bene-
ficially to the north, inasmuch as it enhanced the price of
which are purchased in the former
imports as well as those
goods ^ manufactured in the latter section of the Union ^ A
distribution upon the ratio of the deposite Bill would greatly
bearing
increase the unequal ^ ~~[illegible]~~ of that system by throwing
into the north an undue portion of the revenue raised
in that operation. By reference to the annexed Table it
will be perceived that, the six New England States would,
in the distribution of thirty millions,
^ receive $211.656 more than their share, ~~of the [illegible]~~,
while the four southern states, Virginia, North Carolina,
and Georgia
South Carolina ^ would receive $252.455 less than be- ~~therefore~~
longs to them. ~~Thus, the former section would receive~~
~~not only the bounty on their manufactures growing out~~ ~~an undue~~
~~of the protecting tariff, but would also receive~~ ^ por-
~~tion of the money raised from imports, [illegible] in [illegible]~~
~~thus imposing a double tax for~~
~~during that bounty, bringing thus ^ their benefit.~~ The state
~~other section of the Union for their benefit~~
of Louisiana, for the protection of whose sugar the rest
of the Union pays a high duty upon that article, would
but
not only have the benefit of the protection, ^ ~~would~~
receive in addition,
would ^ ~~get also~~ the sum of $80.127 more than
Thus the states who receive all the
belongs to her in cash. ~~thus appropriating to her~~
benefits of the protecting duty would receive also the cash brought
~~to effect a large portion of the revenue raised from~~

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into the treasury by ~~those~~ duties, thus doubling the tax on the states ~~foreign [illegible] imported~~ states ~~therefore, would not only~~ whose industry receives no protection. If one portion of the country had ~~receive almost the exclusive benefits of the protection~~ just grounds to complain of a protecting Tariff when its proceeds were appl[ied] ~~given by the Tariff, but [illegible] receive also the~~ to the legitimate objects of the general government, how much great[er] ~~revenue collected from imposts for the purpose of [illegible]~~ will be the cause of complaint when those proceeds shall be giv[en] ~~that protection; the [illegible] of the~~ to the states which have all the benefits of the protection? Equity would ~~not of the [illegible] for the benefit~~ demand that the disparity should be on the other side.

If the surplus be considered as exclusively the product of the Public lands, such a distribution would be equally iniquitous. Those lands were the gift of some of the great states to the Union upon the explicit condition that their proceeds should be devoted to the common benefit of the United States. The small states generally ~~states of Delaware, Rhode Island and other~~ had no waste lands to give, ~~to the United States~~ and yet they were enabled, by the liberality of their larger ~~greater~~ sisters, to participate in the benefits of this common fund. But it is incompatible with the letter as well as the spirit of the compacts of cession, that they shall ~~receive~~ ~~enjoy~~ or enjoy a double portion of this donation. Upon the ratio of taxation Rhode Island is entitled to $243.159 as her due proportion of the $30.000.000, while by the ratio of the Deposite Bill she would receive $408.163. So Delaware would receive $306.122, though entitled by the terms of the compacts to only $188.716. The same result would follow in all the small states. On the other hand, Virginia who gave the lands for the common benefit, would receive $213.701 less than her

due proportions New York would receive $514.263 less, Pennsyl-
vania $311.437 less; Massachusetts $98.575 less, North Carolina
$69.933 less; Ohio, $203.622 less; and so of other states. Nothing
could be more directly in contravention of the articles of
cession by the various states, than a distribution which should
bestow on those states which gave no lands to the united
States, an undue proportion of the funds arising from
the sales of the public lands at the expense of those states
in whose liberality this common property originated.

There is a plain way to obviate all these difficulties.
It is to have no surplus. It is to collect only revenue enough
to meet the wants of the government and let the people
keep the balance of their property in their own hands
to be used for their own profit. Each state will then
support its own government and contribute its due share
towards the support of the general government. Each citizen
would retain the possession and use of his own, and the
Banks would be left to their ordinary means. Whatever agita-
tions and fluctuations of business might arise from our
unfortunate paper system, they would never be attributed, justly
or unjustly, to the action of the government. The masses of
a surplus converted into active banking capital are now
before us in the spirit of wild speculation which per-
vades, demoralizes and almost convulses our otherwise
happy land. To prevent the continuance and recurrence
of existing evils many dangers should if necessary be en-
countered. I cannot too earnestly press upon Congress
thus impressed.

the necessity of immediate measures to bring our revenue down to the wants of the government. The duties on many imported articles may be reduced without affecting the protection which the Tariff gives to our manufactures. The price of public lands may be reduced to actual settlers. The duties on many articles of import which are also manufactured at home, may be reduced without serious injury to the manufactures. And if the object cannot be effected without impairing the protection now given to manufactures of every kind, it would be better to inflict this local and partial injury than that the whole union should remain involved in the evils which now beset us. The experience of the last two years has abundantly illustrated that most of our manufactures do not need the protection which the Tariff extends to them and that the interests of the country would be greatly benefitted, by a further reduction of the duties on imports.

Before leaving this subject I feel it my duty to allude to my annual message of 1829, in which the opinion was expressed that our Tariff laws could not consistently with the public interest, be so ~~altered~~ modified until some years after the payment of the public debt as to avoid an accumulating surplus in the Treasury, and an amendment of the constitution was suggested as a means of enabling Congress to distribute it among the several states. This was not the recommendation of a permanent system but the suggestion of an extreme remedy for an anticipated extreme case. The scenes which have since occurred and are now occurring, may well excite a distrust of the expediency of such a measure, even with an amendment of the constitution, and I cannot but deplore the use made of the suggestion to give currency to unconstitutional doctrines and dangerous principles. Any distribution of the surplus revenue under the constitution as it stands, is deemed to be a flagrant and dangerous violation of its letter and spirit, and it is not doubted that a permanent system of collection and distribution, with or without an amendment of the constitution, would pervert the general government from its legitimate objects, subvert the purity, simplicity and independence ~~lead to a practical consolidation of the states~~ of the state governments, lead to a practical consolidation and work a speedy and fatal change in ~~all the~~ character of all our institutions.

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thus the labor of the States ~~for which are~~ is supposed to bear the burden of the Tariff, because it is taxed without receiving compensation in any of ~~the~~ its products, endangers an additional sacrifice ~~to be~~ to the amount manufacturing which is protected by ~~the~~ encouraged it. In the distribution of the Surplus arising from the Surplus every artizan is compensated to receive a share while two fifths of the Southern labor on which it bears most onerously, is struck out in the Constitution

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of Congress and the coöperation of the various states of the union, by the adoption of all the measures which may be required to infuse a just proportion of the precious metals into our circulating medium and gradually contract the sphere which has been allowed to Bank issues.

Some advance towards this object has been already made by the encouragement which has been afforded to the coinage of our mint, and by the act which passed at the last session of Congress repealing the 14th section of the charter of the Bank of the United States and requiring to some extent the public disbursements to be made in specie. But these measures though highly beneficial are evidently insufficient to the attainment of the object. It is believed there are others, of easy adoption by Congress, which will produce a more extensive influence, and at the same time disturb none of the settled interests of trade or require no sacrifice on the part of the Banks or the community which will not more ultimately salutary to them. To this end the collection and safe keeping of the revenue may be made to contribute much more effectually than it now does by increasing the restriction which discourages the employment of any Banks as fiscal agents that issue small bills: And various other auxiliaries to the policy may be found in a proper discrimination in favor of the Banks selected as depositaries of the public money which will reject all practices that are known to be adverse to the introduction and general diffusion of gold and silver as a circulating medium.

The dangers of ~~an~~ excessive issues of Bank paper have been most strikingly illustrated in their effects upon that branch of the public service which has charge of the sales of the public lands. From the returns made by the various Registers and Receivers in the early part of the last summer, it was seen that the receipts arising from the sale of the public lands were increasing to an unprecedented amount, and it was manifest that the valuable portion of the public domain would soon be exchanged for the various denominations of paper that were receivable at the land offices under the existing regulations of the Treasury. The great increase of Bank capital and the advantages expected to follow the transfer of the public monies to the different states in conformity with the provisions of the deposite act of the last session, were well calculated to induce the Banks to extend their issues; and the spirit of speculation and monopoly, the natural fruit of the sudden expansion of such a currency, could not fail to appear at such a period with their train of instruments to annoy and injure the country. The unusual and irregular facilities afforded by the Banks situated in sections of country remote from the public lands, for the transfer of their notes and credit, and the enormous amounts which were thus collected in the hands of capitalists and corporations, or their agents, and which, being receivable by the Banks ~~which~~ that were made depositaries of the public money by the law of the last session, could be used by them as the basis for still further issues on their part, created a state of things that could not but excite alarm and apprehension not only for the immediate safety of the proceeds arising from the sale of the public lands, but for the consequences to the currency and to the community generally.

It was manifest from the great surplus in in the Treasury that there was no necessity for extraordinary sales of the public lands, and if no check were given to the facilities by which speculators could monopolize them, that they would soon be exchanged for a value in many cases merely nominal. Among the advantages

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of such an exchange we could not even enumerate those of the settlement and cultivation of the lands which are certainly the leading considerations that should control the disposition of the public domain when it is not needed to meet the legitimate expenditures of the Government or other national demands in which all the states of the union have an equal and a common interest.

To avert the danger threatened to the public interest from this cause, I felt it to be my duty, in the recess of Congress, to direct the issue of the order which will be laid before you by the Secretary of the Treasury requiring the payments to be made hereafter in specie for the public lands with an exception in favor of actual settlers to continue to the 15th of December ~~next~~.

But loudly as this order seemed to be called for by the interests of the great body of our countrymen who are desirous of becoming cultivators of the soil of our extensive western territory, and by its tendency to repress the spirit of speculation which through the aid of Bank accommodation was tempting all who could command credit to withdraw from the really useful pursuits of life and engage in land jobbing, — it appeared to be equally appropriate to the policy which aims at a wholesome infusion of the precious metals into our circulating medium. It's tendency in this last respect cannot but strengthen in the judgement of our intelligent and patriotic citizens in every quarter of the union, the considerations which have induced the State Legislatures to lend their cooperation to the efforts of this Government to restore the constitutional currency, and to dispense in all time to come with the employment of so dangerous an institution as that of the Bank of the U States

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to lose in the operation; for to him it is immaterial whether you take from him half his wages, or double the price of every thing he has to buy. And that which labor loses in these operations, goes to increase the profits of traders and speculators. In process of time, however, the price of labor as well as land advances; and although every thing seems to be high and every body prosperous, relative prices are found to be the same they were before, and none have profited by the general advance but those but those who have obtained some advantage over others in the course of the operation.

But a general mischief soon ensues. The high prices of all the necessaries and comforts of life first put an end to their exportation to foreign ~~countries~~ markets, and then bring the products and manufactures of other countries into our own markets, where the low prices at which they are purchased abroad enable them to undersell like commodities produced or manufactured among ourselves. Exporta-tion having measurably ceased, these imports must be paid for in money — not in Bank notes, but in gold and silver. The Banks are immediately called on for those commodities; to maintain their own strength

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they are obliged to call in their paper to many times the demand for specie; the currency is suddenly contracted; prices fall; no new enterprises are undertaken and old ones are abandoned; multitudes of labourers are thrown out of employment; failures and distress abound until the contraction of the currency ceases, and the prices of labor and property assume their natural level. Or, if a panic seize the community in the midst of these contractions, the notes of the Banks return upon them almost in mass; they stop specie payments; bankruptcy and ruin are scattered around; and the business systems of the country have to be reconstructed like systems of Government after violent revolutions.

In none of these changes and convulsions do the great mass of the people profit; they are the sufferers. None profit but a few shrewd men who have ingenuity and industry enough to foresee and take advantage of these fluctuations, while a large ~~[illegible]~~ class who have adventured on the troubled sea of speculation are cast ashore in poverty and want

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(13) It will be seen by the report of the Secretary of the Treasury and the accompanying documents that the Bank of the United States has failed as yet to pay over the large share of the capital stock, or any part thereof, to which the United States are entitled in that institution: and that altho urged by the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Government at what period it would be enabled to discharge its obligations in this respect it has returned no answer ~~from it~~ giving the desired information ~~has been yet communicated~~. Prompt measures have been taken and are in progress to ascertain the value of the stock and to obtain an early payment thereof; but it is proper to state that the information of the condition of the Bank ~~this subject~~ which Congress authorised the Secretary of the Treasury to collect, although repeatedly desired from the Bank, has not been furnished. ~~Otherwise~~ [illegible]

The present condition of the Bank of the United States is believed to require the attention and examination of Congress. The charter of that institution expired on the 3d of March last, and all its powers ceased on that day except the right of using the name of the corporation in winding up its affairs as expressed and strictly limited in the following clause of the 21st section of the charter "and notwithstanding the expiration of the term for which the said corporation is limited it shall be lawful to use the corporate name, style, and capacity, for the purpose of suits for the final settlement and liquidation of the affairs and accounts of the corporation, and for the sale and disposition of their estate, real, personal, and mixed, but not for any other purpose, or in any other manner, whatsoever, nor for a period exceeding two years after the expiration of the said term of incorporation". Shortly before the expiration of the charter it is known that the subscribers to the Bank obtained an act of incorporatn charter from the Legislature of Penna, and through this new organizatn ~~institution~~, among ~~many~~ other acts of questionable validity, it is believed that the notes and bills of the expired corporation are again put into circulation. If this is the case it is

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obvious that the former institution is still in operation through the new one; that it is doing by another what it cannot do by itself; that it is covertly exercising a function which has legally ceased; and continues to obtrude a paper currency upon the country, for the issue of which the chartered privilege has expired, for the protection of which the chartered provisions are no longer in force, and which in law and honesty ought to be called in by public advertisement, paid up as presented, and cancelled. Corporations as well as natural persons should submit to the laws, and in the case of moneyed corporation especially and one of the power and character of the late Bank of the United States whose corrupt course has been so daring, and which, in the illegal detention of public money and in the refusal of the examining power of the House of Representatives, has heretofore trampled upon the laws of the land and defied the power of the Government, it becomes the high and peculiar duty of Congress to ascertain facts, and to apply, or cause to be applied, the remedies which insubordination fraud, usurpation ~~and~~ ~~insubordination~~ require, if found to exist.

It is also ~~said and believed~~ known that the capital stock and effects of the late institution have been transferred to the

new one and are now under the control and management
It is therefore
of its Directory. ~~If this should be so it would be~~ the duty of
congress to ascertain whether such transfers were made in trust for
the benefit of the creditors of the expired corporation, or in full
and if in trust the terms of it and the management under it.
property for the use of the new one. The charter of the late Bank
authorized transfers of stock within the corporation, but not aliena-
-tions of stock from it, and it is clear that the charter intended the
stock and effects of the Bank to remain bound to its creditors, and not to
be alienated or jeopardized in the business of a different institution until
all the creditors were first satisfied. The public at large are still
creditors upon the late institution for the bills and notes now outstanding
and unredeemed, and the United States is a large creditor for its stock
unreturned and its dividends withheld; and these creditors have a right
~~[illegible]~~ to look to the capital stock and the effects of the late institution
for the liquidation of their claims. A corporation has no right to alienate
its capital, nor to shift its creditors to another debtor, and if such
things have been attempted by the late Bank of the United States
it becomes the duty of the National Legislature to inquire into the matter and to
use all its constitutional power to vindicate the majesty of the laws and to protect the
rights of the public. It will not do for this Government which possesses the respect of
the world, and has proved itself equal to all the exigencies of a sovereign power
to suffer its laws and authority to be set at nought and trampled under foot
by a monied corporation of its own creation.

The law of the last session regulating the Deposite Banks, when put in practice, has been found to operate upon them onerously and unjustly in many instances. ~~That law requires the Banks to pay interest at a certain rate upon certain sums in their hands. Taking into consideration the important~~ Which it is hoped Congress on proper representation will correct

Bank B 27

services rendered by a part of the Banks since the passage of the law, and before it, in which the whole country has participated; the short period at which many of the newly selected banks will probably continue to be employed, and the diminished amount that will remain with the Banks which will agree to act as fiscal agents after the deposites of the surplus revenue are made in the State Treasuries; it would seem to be no more than an act of just liberality to repeal that part of the act both retrospectively and prospectively.

20315

1 Bank

Dec. 1836

It will be seen by the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury and the accompanying documents that the Bank of the United States has made no pmt on account paid over none ~~part~~ of the stock held by the government in that institution although urged to pay any portion which might suit its convenience, and that it has given no information when payment may be expected. Nor, though repeatedly requested, has it furnished the information in relation to its condition which Congress authorized the Secretary to collect at their last session. Such measures as are with the power of the Executive have been ~~Measures~~ taken to ascertain the value of the stock and procure ~~hasten~~ the payment as speedily as possible.

The conduct and present condition of that Bank and the great amount of capital ~~public interests~~ vested in it, by the U.S. require your careful attention. Its ~~The~~ charter ~~of that institution~~ expired on the 3d day of March last, and it has now no power but that given in the 21st section "to use the corporate name, style, and capacity for the purpose of suit for the final settlement and liquidation of the affairs and accounts of the corporation, and for the sale and disposition of their estate, real, personal and mixed, but not for any other purpose or in any other manner whatsoever, nor for a period exceeding two years after the

2 Bank

expiration of the said term of incorporation." Before the expiration of the charter, the stockholders of the Bank obtained an act of incorporation from the Legislature of Pennsylvania excluding the United States. Instead of proceeding to wind up their concerns ~~of the Bank~~ and pay over to the United States the amount due on account of the stock held by them, the President and Directors of the old Bank appear to have transferred its Books, papers, notes, obligations and most or all of its property to this new corporation which entered upon business as a continuation of the old concern. Amongst other acts of questionable validity, the notes of the expired corporation are ~~believed~~ known to have been used as its own and again put in circulation. That the old Bank had no right to issue or reissue its notes after the expiration of the charter, cannot be denied; and that it could not confer any such a right on its substitute any more than exercise it itself ~~on, another corporation~~, is equally plain. In law and honesty the notes of the Bank in circulation at the expiration of its charter, should have been called in by public advertisement, paid up as presented and together with those on hand, cancelled and destroyed. Their reissue is sanctioned by no law and warranted by no necessity. If the United States be responsible in their stock for the payment of these notes, their reissue by the new corporation for their own profit, is a fraud on the government. If the United States is not responsible, then there is no legal responsibility in any quarter, and it is a fraud on the country. They

20317

3 Bank

are like the notes of a dead person paid off by him in his life time, but negotiated by those who may have clandestinely become possessed of his effects after his death, for their own profit. These notes constitute a currency for the redemption of which the new Bank is under no ~~legal~~ obligation of law, and which cannot equitably be required of the old Bank; which it is no crime to counterfeit, and which, in the manner of its reissue, exhibits a daring disregard of legal restraint and the rights of the government and people of the United States.

It ~~becomes~~ is the right and peculiar duty of Congress to ~~[illegible]~~ decide, whether any further legislation be necessary for the security of the large amount of public property now held and in use by the new Bank and ~~take such measures as may be necessary~~ for vindicating the rights of the government and compelling a speedy and honest settlement with all the creditors of the old Bank, public and private, ~~[illegible]~~ or whether the subject shall be left to the persons now possessed by the [illegible] of the old Bank, ~~without any further [illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~to be seen~~, whether the ~~persons~~ who as managers ~~[illegible]~~ undertook to control the government, retained the public dividends, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ shut their doors upon a committee of the House of Representatives and filled the country with panic ~~and ruin~~ to accomplish their own sinister objects, may now, as managers of a new bank, continue with impunity to flood the country with a spurious currency, use the seven millions of government stock for their own profit

They are ~~this like~~ the notes of a dissolved partnership, paid up before the dissolution, but continuing both with[out] the [illegible] of the retiring partner, and without his consent are again reissued & circulated

203187

4. Bank.

and refuse to the United States all information as to the ~~[illegible]~~ present condition of their own property and the prospect of recovering it into their own possession. ~~recovery of it.~~

~~Happily~~ the lessons taught by the Bank of the United States ~~in its life and its death~~ cannot well be ~~will not be~~ lost upon the American people. They will take care never again to place so tremendous a power in irresponsible hands, and it ~~would~~ will be ~~well~~ fortunate if they ~~should~~ seriously consider the consequences of which are likely to result on a smaller scale from the facility with which corporate powers are granted by their state governments.

Proposed in lieu of
pages 22, 23, 24 & 25 on
the Bank.

Dec. 1836

a—1

(Suggestions made by me in my annual Messages of
1829 and 1830 in reference to an amendment of the
constitution as a means of enabling Congress to divide
among the states an anticipated temporary surplus of
revenue, have been used to promote the views of
those who favor a permanent distribution) ||Without ~~Not~~ denying ~~denying~~
that the experience and observation of the last
seven ~~six~~ years, have operated a partial change in my views ~~opinions~~ upon
this interesting subject, it is nevertheless apparent ~~[illegible]~~ that
the suggestions ~~then~~ made have been greatly misunderstood.
At that time, the great struggle was going ~~a begun~~ against ~~[illegible]~~
that latitudinarian construction of the constitution which
authorized the unlimited appropriation of the revenues
of the Union to internal improvements within the
states, tending to invest in the hands and place
under the control of the ~~federal~~ general government,
all the principal roads and canals of the country in
violation of state rights and in derogation of state
authority. At the same time, the condition of the
manufacturing interest was such as to create an
apprehension that the duties on imports could
not, without extensive mischief, be reduced in
season to prevent the accumulation of a considerable
surplus after the payment of the national debt.
In view of the dangers of an accumulating surplus

20321

and in preference to its application to internal improvements in derogation of the rights and powers of the states, the suggestion of an amendment of the constitution to authorize its distribution was made. It was an alternative for what were deemed greater evils — a temporary resort to relieve an overburthened treasury until the government could, without a sudden and destructive revulsion in the business of the country, gradually return to the just principle of raising no more from the people in taxes than is necessary for its economical support. Even that alternative was not spoken of but in connection with an amendment of the constitution. No temporary inconvenience can justify the exercise of a prohibited power or a power not granted by that instrument; and it was from a conviction that the power to distribute even a temporary surplus of revenue is of that character, that it was suggested only in connection with an appeal to the source of all legal power in the general government, the states which have established it. No such appeal has been taken, and in my opinion a distribution of the surplus revenue by Congress, either to the states or the people, is to be considered as among the prohibitions of the constitution. As already intimated, my views have undergone a change so far as to be convinced, that no change of the constitution in this respect would

a—3

it wise or expedient. The ~~effect~~ influence of an accumulating surplus upon
the legislation of the general government and the states, its
effect upon the credit system of the country, producing
dangerous extensions and ruinous contractions, fluctuations in
the price of property, wild speculation, idleness, extravagance and
a deterioration of morals, ~~[illegible]~~ have taught us the impor-
tant lesson that any mischief which may attend the
immediate reduction of our revenue to the wants of
our government, is to be borne in preference to
an ~~overflowing~~ super-abundant treasury.

20323

A.

Proposed in lieu of the
matter in the 8th & 9th
sheets between the
pencil marks.

Dec. 1836 2 – 1.7

lose in the operation; for to him it is immaterial whether you
take from him half his wages or double the price of every
thing he has to buy. And that which labor loses in
these fluctuations, goes to increase the profits of traders
and speculators. In process of time, however, the price of
labor as well as land advances; and although every thing
seems to be high and every body prosperous, ~~relative~~
relative are found
prices, ^ ~~and relat~~ to be the same they were before,
and ^ none have profited by the general advance
obtained some
but those who have ~~taken~~ advantage over others in
the course of ~~the~~ operation. But a general mischief
soon ensues. The high prices of all the necessaries and
first puts an ~~the~~ end to their ~~products~~ exportation to foreign
comforts of life ^ of the products and manufactures
markets and then bring the products and manufactures
of other countries into our own markets, where the
low prices at which they are purchased abroad enable them
to undersell like commodities produced or manufactured
among ourselves. Exportation having measurably ceased,
these imports must be paid for in money — not in
bank notes, but in gold and silver. The Banks are im-
mediately called on for those commodities; to maintain
their own strength they are obliged to call in their
paper to many times the amount of the demand for
specie; the currency is suddenly contracted; prices fall;
no new enterprises are undertaken and old ones are
abandoned; multitudes of laborers are thrown out of
employment; failures and distress abound until the

X relation of prices remains unaltered?

20324

b – 2.

contraction of the money ceases and the prices of labor and property assume their natural level. Or, if a panic seize the community in the midst of these contractions, the notes of the Banks are returned upon them almost in mass; they stop specie payments; bankruptcy and ruin are scattered around; and the business systems of the country have to be reconstructed like systems of government after violent revolutions.

In none of these changes and convulsions do the great mass of the people profit; they are the sufferers. None profit but a few shrewd men who have sagacity and industry enough to foresee and take advantage of these fluctuations, while a larger class who have adventured on the troubled sea of speculation are cast ashore in poverty and want with habits unsettled and morals depraved ~~[illegible]~~, to prey for the balance of their lives on the simple and unwary.

Such are the fluctuations, as certain though not so regular as the flow of the tides, which every country must endure which relies for a currency on the notes of banking associations upon whatever principles they may be constituted.

It was in view of these evils, together with the dangerous power wielded by the Bank of the United States and its repugnance to our constitution, that I was ~~has~~, induced ~~[illegible]~~ to exert the power conferred upon me by the American people, to prevent the continuance of that

20395

institution. But although serious dangers to our republican institutions have been obviated by the failure of that Bank to extort from the government a renewal of its charter, it is obvious that little has been accomplished beyond ~~done other than~~ a salutary change of public opinion, towards restoring to the country the sound currency provided for in the constitution. In the acts of several of the states prohibiting the circulation of small notes and the auxiliary enactments of Congress at the last session forbidding ~~prohibiting~~ their reception or payment on public account, the true policy of the country has been advanced, and a larger portion of the precious metals infused into our circulating medium. These measures will probably be followed up in due time by the enactment of state laws banishing from circulation bank notes of still higher denominations, and the object may be materially promoted by further acts of Congress forbidding the employment as fiscal agents of such banks as continue to issue notes of low denominations and throw impediments in the way of the circulation of gold and silver.

The effects of an extension of bank credits and over issues of bank paper, have been strikingly illustrated in the sales of the public lands. From the returns made by the various Registers and Receivers in the early part of last summer, it was perceived that the receipts arising from the sales of the public lands were increasing to an unprecedented amount. In effect, however, these receipts amounted to nothing more than credits in Bank. The Banks lent out their notes to speculators; they were paid to the Receivers and immediately returned ~~again~~ to the Banks, to be lent out again and again, being mere instruments to transfer to speculators the most valuable public lands and pay ~~[illegible]~~ the government by a credit on the books of the Banks. Those credits ~~credit~~ on the books ~~called deposits~~ of some of the western banks, usually called deposits, ~~were~~ already greatly beyond their immediate means of payment and were rapidly increasing. Indeed, each speculation furnished means for another; for no sooner had one individual or company paid in the notes than they were immediately lent to another for a like purpose, and the Banks were extending their business and their issues so largely as to alarm considerate men and render it doubtful whether these bank credits if permitted to accumulate, would ultimately be of the least value to the government. The ~~extensive~~ spirit of expansion and speculation ~~were~~ was not confined to the deposite banks, but pervaded the ~~whole~~ whole multitude of Banks throughout the Union, and was giving rise to new institutions to aggravate the evil.

The safety of the public funds ~~that~~ and the interest of the people generally required that these operations should be checked, and it became the duty of every branch of the general and state governments to ~~resort~~ adopt ~~to~~ all legitimate and lawful means to produce ~~that~~ salutary effect. Under this view of my duty I directed the issue of the order which will be laid before you by the Secretary of the Treasury requiring payments for the public lands sold to be made in specie with an exception until the 15th of the present month in favor of actual settlers. This measure has produced many salutary consequences. It checked the career of the Western Banks and gave them additional strength in anticipation of the pressure which has since pervaded the eastern and European commercial cities. By preventing the extension of the credit system, it measurably cut off the means of speculation and retarded its progress in the career of monopolizing the most valuable of the public lands. It has tended to save the new states from a nonresident proprietorship, one of the greatest obstacles to the advancement of a new country and the prosperity of an old one. It has tended to keep open the public lands for entry by emigrants at government prices instead of their being compelled to purchase of speculators at double or triple prices. And it is carrying into the interior large sums in silver and gold there to enter permanently into the currency of the country and place it on a firmer foundation. It is confidently believed, that the country will find in the motives which induced that order and the happy consequences which have ensued, much to commend and nothing to condemn.

It remains for Congress, if they approve the policy which dictated this order, to follow it up in its various bearings. In regard to the proprietorship of lands in the new states, it would have a most happy effect to prohibit sales except to actual settlers and limit the quantity which shall be sold to them. Although it is believed the general government never ought ~~in any form~~, to receive any thing

10329

b— 7.

but the constitutional currency in exchange for the public lands, that point would be of less importance if the lands were sold only for immediate settlement and cultivation. Indeed, there is scarcely a mischief arising out of our present land system, including the ~~present~~ accumulating surplus of revenue, which would ~~would~~ not be remedied at once by ~~a~~ a restriction on land sales to actual settlers; and it promises other advantages to the country in general and to the new states in particular, which cannot fail to secure the most profound consideration of Congress.

20330

83.

Proposed in lieu of pages
7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and
part of 17 of the original
manuscript

Dec. 1836]

29. 30.

I am aware that the views I now express on this delicate ~~and important~~ subject ~~[illegible]~~ may perhaps be ~~[illegible]~~ may be treated as irreconcileable to the course of policy indicated in my annual message of 1829 and the following one of 1830. At those periods it will be recollected that the condition of the country was very different from what it now is, and that particularly in its most striking domestic relations there were principles sanctioned by existing legislation which were calculated forever to prevent the payment of the public debt and moreover no ~~[illegible]~~ remedy for the evils which were inevitable from the theory then prevailing in regard to the agency which the General Government might employ over the subject of internal improvement. Combined with the policy which aimed at a scale of protection for the manufacturing interests much higher than was consistent with the good of the country at large.

The ~~measure~~ doctrine Doctrine, that the General Government could appropriate without limitation the public moneys to aid the local and sectional improvements within the limits of the States, presented a crisis in the affairs of the country which none can have forgotten. Deeply sensible of the importance of the occasion and of the duties it imposed upon me as the Chief Magistrate of the Nation, my great object, in the messages referred to, was to present ~~present~~ to the people the considerations which required their interposition in averting the threatened dangers. In doing this it was impossible for me to mature an opinion as to the course of legislation which would be best adapted to the condition of the country when it should be freed from public debt and from any necessity for taxation except for the purposes

20332

clearly designated in the constitution; and all the suggestions which I made in relation to the future, in this respect, if fairly interpreted, will be found to rest on the confident [illegible] anticipation that the people would devise a reasonable rule of action for their agents, which would be much more safe and wise than any within the competency of Congress then to adopt. Thus in the message of 1829 when the various arguments in favor of a high tariff and an extended system of appropriation for purposes of internal improvement sought a powerful support in the difficulties which it was predicted would grow out of an accumulation of money in the Treasury, I ventured the suggestion that such evils might be avoided by an apportionment of the surplus among the states, if such a step were warranted by the constitution. But in connection with the same subject and at the same time I used the following language — "I regard an appeal to the source of power in cases of real doubt, and where its exercise is deemed indispensable to the general welfare, as among the most sacred of all our obligations. Upon this country more than any other has, in the Providence of God, been cast the special guardianship of the great principle of adherence to written constitutions. If it fail here, all hope in regard to it will be extinguished. That this was intended to be a Government of limited and specific, and not general powers, must be admitted by all: and it is our duty to preserve for it the character intended by its framers. If experience points out the necessity for an enlargement of these powers, let us apply for it to those for whose benefit it is to be exercised; and not undermine the whole system by a resort to overstrained constructions. The scheme has worked well. It has exceeded the hopes of those who devised it, and become an object of admiration to the world. We are responsible to the country and to the glorious cause of self Government for the preservation of so great a good. The great mass of legislation relating to our internal affairs, was intended to be left where the Federal convention found it — in the State Governments. Nothing is clearer in my view, than that we are chiefly indebted for the success of the constitution under which we are now acting to the watchful and auxiliary operation of the state authorities. This is not the reflection of a day but belongs to the most deeply cherished convictions of my mind. I cannot therefore too strongly or too earnestly, for my own sense of its importance, warn us against all encroachments upon the legitimate sphere of State authority. Sustained by its healthful and invigorating influence the Federal system can never fall." So also in the message of 1830 in which similar suggestions were followed out into more detail, and were prompted by the same general views, I employed the following language — "Profoundly impressed with the importance of the subject, not merely as it relates to the general prosperity of the country but to the safety of the Federal system, I cannot avoid repeating my earnest hope that all good citizens, who take a proper interest in the success and harmony of our admirable political institutions, and who are incapable of desiring to convert an opposite state of things into means for the gratification of personal ambition — will, laying aside minor considerations, and discarding local prejudices, unite their honest exertions to establish some fixed general principle, which shall be calculated to effect the greatest extent of public good in regard to the subject of internal improvement and afford the least ground for sectional discontent".

I am thus particular in referring to the past to shew that the expressions used by me heretofore in urging upon the country the policy which has so happily secured its sanction to the rapid payment of the public debt and afforded so many ample means for still further reductions of the burdens of taxation, were never intended to countenance the idea that it would be wise or just to raise a revenue for the purpose of distributing it again to the States or the people.

20338
203

Feeling secure in the great principle of appeal to the people, it was enough for me to overcome existing difficulties, and point the attention of Congress to the only safe and constitutional remedy for the prospective evils that were to arise from the possession of an unavoidable casual surplus revenue. It must be apparent too to every reflecting mind that these evils would be greatly lessened if they were controlled by a constitutional rule instead of being suffered as they now may to assume all the indefiniteness and variety which can belong to the discretion of Congress and of the State Legislatures. But after the experience of the past year ~~we may well distrust the~~ I am convinced of the inexpediency of any plan of distribution, even with a constitutional amendment; and

1836

Bank.

It will be seen by the report of the Secy of the Treasury and the accompanying documents that the Bank of the U. States has failed as yet to pay over the seven million large share of the capital stock, or any part thereof, to which the U. States is entitled in that institution. And altho urged by the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Government at what period it would be enabled to discharge its obligation in this respect no answer giving information has yet been communicated. further Measures are have been taken and are in progress to ascertain the value of the stock and to obtain an early payment thereof. It will be for Congress to determine whether considering the neglect of the Bank and its general indifference to the obligations imposed by its ~~[illegible]~~ charter, some other measures may not be ~~[illegible]~~ necessary to secure the large interests which the Government unfortunately holds in its capital. Some such measures would seem to be necessary as there is reason that it has transferred with all its property to a new corporation

But it is proper to state that the information authorised by Congress to be called for by the Secy. altho repeatedly, has not been furnished.

which refused its bills, ~~or~~ is able to ~~effect~~ the fulfilment of its obligations

by the Govt.

30339

Dec 1836

1

By the report of the Secretary of the Treasury it will be perceived that preparations have been made to execute the act of the last seſsion of Congreſs for depositing a portion of the public moneys in the Treasuries of the several States. The amount to be thus deposited is estimated at $35.000.000, leaving $5.000.000 in the Deposite Banks of the United States on the 1st day of January next. The unexpended balances of appropriations on that day are estimated at $15.000.000 exceeding the amount left in the Banks by $10.000.000. Unleſs therefore the future receipts shall be sufficient to meet these outstanding demands as well as the appropriations made at the present seſsion of Congreſs it will soon become neceſsary to use a portion of the funds deposited with the States.

20540

Dec. 1836

The present condition of the Bank of the United States is believed to require the attention and examination of congress. The charter of that institution expired on the 3d day of March last, and all its powers ceased on that day except the right of using the name of the corporation in winding up its affairs as expressed and strictly limited in the following clause of the 21st section of the charter: "and notwithstanding the expiration of the term for which the said corporation is limited, it shall be lawful to use the corporate name, style, and capacity, for the purpose of suits for ~~the purpose of suits~~ for the final settlement and liquidation of the affairs and accounts of the corporation, and for the sale and disposition of their estate, real, personal, and mixed; but not for any other purpose, or in any other manner, whatsoever, nor for a period exceeding two years after the expiration of the said term of incorporation."

2 Dec. 1836 24

Shortly before the expiration of the charter it is known that the subscribers to the Bank obtained a charter from the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and through this new institution, among other acts of questionable validity, it is believed that the notes and bills of the expired corporation are again put into circulation. If this is the case, it is obvious that the former institution is still in operation through the new one; that it is doing by another what it cannot do by itself; that it is covertly exercising a function which has legally ceased; and continues to obtrude a paper currency upon the country, for the issue of which the chartered privilege has expired, for the protection of which the chartered provisions are no longer in force, and which in law and honesty ought to be called in by public advertisement, paid up as presented, and cancelled. Corporations, as well as natural persons, should submit to the laws; and in the case of monied corporations especially, and one of the power and character of the late Bank of the United States, whose lawless & corrupt course has been so daring, and which, in the illegal detention of public money and in the refusal to submit to the examining power of the House of Representatives, has heretofore trampled upon the laws of the land and defied the power of the government, it becomes the high and peculiar duty of congress to ascertain facts, and to apply, or cause to be applied, the remedies which ~~fraud~~ usurpation and insubordination, require, if found to exist.

20342

39.319.899
5.399.000
14.450.000

59.168.899

Bl

It is also said that the capital stock and effects of the late institution have been transferred to the new one, and are now under the control and management of its Directory. If this should be so, it would be the duty of Congress to ascertain whether such transfers were made in trust, for the benefit of the creditors of the expired corporation, or in full property, for the use of the new one. The charter of the late Bank authorized transfers of stock within the corporation, but not alienations of stock from it; and it is clear that the charter intended the stock and effects of the Bank to remain bound to its creditors, and not to be alienated, or jeopardized in the business of a different institution, until all the creditors were first satisfied. The public at large are still creditors upon the late institution for the bills and notes now outstanding and unredeemed; and the United States is a large creditor for its stock unrefunded and its dividends withheld; and these creditors have a right to look to the capital stock and the effects of the late institution for the liquidation of their claims. A corporation has no right to alienate its capital, nor to shift its creditors to another debtor; and if such things have been attempted by the late Bank of the United States, it becomes the duty of the National Legislature to inquire into the matter, & to use all its constitutional power to vindicate the majesty of the laws and to protect the rights of the public. It will not do for this Government, which possesses the respect of the world, and has proved itself equal to all the exigencies of a sovereign power, to suffer its laws and authority to be

203.43

B. U. S.

It is now well ascertained that the real domestic exchanges
~~The whole of the dealing in exchanges performed by the~~
performed by the United States Bank and its twenty five branches were
~~United States Bank and its twenty five Branches were~~
at least one third less than those of the Deposite Banks for
~~stated for the year 1832 at $225.614.9[illegible]. By~~
an equal period of time: and if a comparison be instituted
~~the amount of remittances of the Deposite Banks, originally~~
between the amount of service rendered by these institutions, on the broader basis
~~selected, it appears that the transactions embracing the~~
which was used in estimating by the amounts of the U S what they consider the domestic exchanges of that Bank
~~same items of domestic exchange for the year ending~~
[illegible] ~~of the United States for the year 1832~~, the result will be still more
~~on the 1st of October last amounted to $420.463.~~
Banks ~~#~~

~~#~~ ~~were such a basis assumed~~
~~that the transactions of the~~
~~1st of October last which~~
~~computation for the U S Bank~~

20344-L

1836

Dear Sir

Have the goodness to answer the enclosed letter for me in something like the enclosed form. Mr Smith is one of the best of men but very much inclined to contest every thing

Yours

MVB

Saturday Ev

Mr Blair

20348

1836

Mr Van Buren
& Smiths Letter
about Pallen

Francis P. Blair Esqr

1836? 1831?

I will do All the Carpenters work
In rebuilding the Hermittage as it was before
It burnd down with the folowing alterations
17 Double boxt window frains Glass to be 10 by 14 " 24 lights
In each window Caised with pilasta Caising with
[illegible]ching Shutters 4 Garrit windows with shutters
Finished plain, the roof to be maid of a lower pitch
Then it was before with a walk on top 12 or 14 feet
wide the lenght of the house with posts and handrailing to be
Caled with plank in front and back from roof to floor
2 large parlour Doors say 10 or 12 feet Squar
1 privit Staircase, 1 Stair caise in pasage to Contin[illegible]
To the garret floor to be finished on the geomatric
Plan of Stairs Porches front & Back as before
Cornice to be without blocks. East wing to be
finished as before

The amount of Carpenters work agreable to the
Bill maid out in Cluding board is $2995,37
861 [illegible]
the amount of timber and nails 3856 91

20350

1836?

Lumber acct. delivered
To Joseph Ripps for Hermitage by E.=
Hobbs. for Andrew Jackson

To. 528.	foot scantling		3×8.	@ 3.00.	15.84
To. 612.	Do.		3×5.	@ 3.00.	18.36
To. 140	Do.		5×7.	@ 3.00.	4.20.
To. 270	Do.		4×4	@ 2.50.	6.75
To. 140.	Do.	2 inch	plank	@ 2.00.	2.80.
To. 2251	Do.	inch	Do.	@ 1.00.	22.51
To. 852	Do.	1 1/2	Do.	@ 150.	12.78
To. 1423	Do.	3/4	Do.	@ 75.	10.67.
To. 840	Do.	1.1/4	Do.	@ 125.	10.50.
To. 402	Do.	1/2 inch	Do.	@ 75.	3.01
To. 337.	Do.	1 3/4	Do.	@ 175.	5.89.
To. 189.	Do.	scantling	3×7 1/2	@ 3.00.	5.67.
To. 2243	Do.	1 3/4	plank	@ 2.00.	44.86
10.227.	foot				163.84.
					42 50.
					56.65.
				Total	262.99.
				pd. A. Jackson	250
					$513

$200

457 20

500

20351

15

16

$50 4 m

12

60

Joseph Ripley

Att

viz

A. J. Jackson

Ripp pluvo
Higgins — 500
Simons — 1 m

–5 8
1836?

Amount

Work on the Main Building	$1392, 35
Do on the Front Portico	972, 70
Do on the East Wing	239, 37½
add one fouth for board	651, 10½
Do on West Wing & Kitchen	186, 23
Do on The back Portico	750. 00
Amount of Cost of Lumber & Nails Hinges &c	954. 63
	$5146. 39

5

20552-3

5746.00 Work on Hermitage

Dec. 1836

(1)

Among the most important trusts confided to the General Government is that of establishing a uniform currency – a standard of value. And although the framers of the Constitution gave to Congress the right of establishing a currency in that of coining and regulating the value of the money of the United States, yet it is not allowed to select the material of which it is made. – The Government of the United States is not authorized to make any thing but gold & silver a tender in payment of Debts, and this power is expressly interdicted to the States, as well as that of issuing Bills of Credit.

It is apparent from the whole content of the Constitution, as well as the history of the times which gave birth to it, that it was the purpose of the convention to establish a constitutional currency consisting of the precious metals; These from their peculiar properties which rendered them the standard of value in all other nations, were adopted in this, as well to

to

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Dec. 1836

afterwards effected by the ingenious authors of the scheme by a strained construction of the constitution. The Debts of the revolution were funded - many members of Congress became owners of the stock founded on them - at prices which formed no equivalent, compared with the nominal amount of stock. - The value of of this stock was understood to depend in a great degree on the credit which would be imparted to the Government, through the agency of a national Bank - a national Bank was created - and as it became the interest of the issuers of the National Bank currency that the gold currency should be superseded by the paper of the Bank as a general currency, a value was attached to the gold coins which rendered it more valuable to export it as a commodity to foreign countries than to retain and use it as money at home. The consequence was that it disappeared and the Bank in effect became the mint of the United States.

Dec. 1836

The late order of the Secretary of the Treasury requiring the payment for public lands to be made in Specie was intended as one step towards the recall and restoration of the constitutional currency to its appropriate function as a standard of value and circulating medium.

It has been long evident that to a very great extent, its office has been usurped by the paper of the Bank of the United States, and in some degree by that of the State Banks. The gold coinage was entirely banished from the country. The silver was retained in Banks merely to meet occasional runs upon them in emergencies of panic or distrust, and except in this subsidiary way or as change for small notes, it could hardly be considered any other than a commodity in commerce

The mischiefs growing out of this departure from the fundamental law of the Government, have been severe~~ll~~y felt in various modes and by every class in society.

The—

Dec. 1836

a tariff on our home industry for the benefit of other Countries; where Gold and Silver continuing to circulate ~~[illegible]~~ fix the standard of value, ~~moderate~~ and maintain uniformity and moderation in prices. ~~and regular prices are maintained~~. where the price of land and Labor is enhanced by paper issues an hundred per cent, every product is doubled in price and cannot sustain a competition with products in Countries where gold and silver preserve the regular price free from the effect of deteriorated Currency. The result, under such circumstances, is that agricultural products as well as manufactures cease to bear exportation from the Country of the spurious Currency because they cannot be sold for cost, and at last they encounter competition at home in articles made comparatively cheap, by the steady standard of the precious metals.

Europe has already commenced sending grain to our grain growing Country - and it must happen soon when the cheapest articles bear importation into our country, that nothing can bear exportation. Whatever-

-Whatever

whatever is brought in then must carry out Gold and silver. This is the process by which Specie is banished by the paper of the Banks- their vaults are soon exhausted to pay for foreign commodities- the next step is a stoppage of specie payments- a total degradation of paper as a currency- universal depression of prices- the ruin of debtors and the accumulation of property in the hands of creditors and cautious Capitalists.

This country has repeatedly experienced the effects produced by the fluctuations of a paper system and can well appreciate the motives of the Father of the Government, in the effort to guard against them by a constitutional provision.

The credit of the Government of the United States should not be made subservient to the establishment of ~~a paper~~ such a system. Paper money can only exist where it is sustained and privileged by Government. and a Government which recognizes no other currency than Gold and silver, must be perverted in its administration;

- if it

Dec. 1836

if it foster a fluctuating paper medium to supplant the standard of value established by the constitution. This accomplished and speculation flourishes at the expense of the Labor, which ~~affords~~ it ought to be the chief object of the Government to protect;

Under such impressions when I first entered the office I now hold, I considered it my duty to exert the appropriate power conferred upon me, to rid the Government of an Institution which was privileged to receive and pay out the public revenues in its own paper and which, through the credit of the Government was enabled to create a national currency, out of issues which were profuse or stinted at the pleasure of a Board of Directors.

Under the same sense of duty I have taken a first step towards the withdrawal of that cooperation of Government with State Banks, which tends to assign to their paper the place now occupied by that of the United States Bank.

To make

1836?

Dear Andrew

I return'd from the Hermitage last night and will go up again tomor=row. The second Raft of Timber came down a few days since it is very good and Reiff says will do very well we are putting on the Zinc and I hope will be able to make a good Roof. I found more difficulty in doing so than I expected and could not get along without a workmen and the necessary Tools to cut & Joint the Metal and I found it necessary to call on Sefferns to whome you had spoken, he is now at it and I will be able in a few days to give you some further account of it. Sefferns made the Gutter and took up with [illegible] it is a good one and made to Reiffs plan and direction, The great House Back is Hand[illegible], the Sickness here and the Report of Small Pox in the Neighbourhood of the Hermitage prevented hands from engaging I hope soon to get,

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a strong force at it I have urged
Roffy Stevens to engage every good
workmen that can be had untill
it is done. The Porches are all up
nearly. The House will look much
better and be greatly more convenient,
[illegible] by your leave I would make
a Kitchen of the Smoke House &
build a Smoke House by three walls directly
in rear of the present Smoke House
the Smoke House would make a fine
Large Kitchen and is pretty near
with a covered way to the dining
Room. The Crop I think a good one
200 or 230 acres of the Cotton is as
good as any in the neighbourhood
it is all clean now and in good
order, and if the Fall season is
a good one and the frost keeps off
it will make 1000 to the acre
perhaps more — The Corn is also
good. Hobbs says that he will not
make less than 1200 Barrels The
Stock is all in good order. Hobbs says
he will be able to get the Hogs

a Length by feeding the Squirrel Eaten Corn to them and the Clover pasture &c. I think from all I can see and hear that he is doing every thing to the best advantage. The Negroes are all well no Complaints amongst them, and in fact I think you ought to be satisfied with the prospect.—

I will write you more fully when the Crop is secured. Rest satisfied that I will urge Bepp on to the work with as little delay as possible but you know he is slow and hard to move out of his regular pace. The Colts too seem to get along well. I was at the Negro Stables & saw all the Bloods. Will write him in a few days. My Respts. to the Prst. Mrs. J. & Majr. Donelson & family Col. Earl &c &c. In haste yours

Truly

R Armstrong

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Hobbs has Saved a very fine Crop of Oats, and has fine Crop of Millet.

I refer you to my Letter to the Memorandum for Acct. of drafts for payments made for Corn & 400$ paid Reiff which he paid for the Cash. Raft of Lumber and a part to his hands, &c.

In haste
Yrs
R Armstrong

1836?

The boundary of the Cherokee Nation is as follows Begining at Vanns old store on the Ockmulge River from thence to the Chatihoochee River near Nawyoka old town from thence in a straight direction to the cross the cedar creek a little below the old Village from thence to the Head of Tatteshatchee & down the same to its mouth this claim as stated I & my nation claim as their boundary

Witness
Jas Gadsden

Richd Brown

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1 [1836?]

I sincerely regret that the bill &c has been so constructed as to compel me to withhold from it my signature. I have heretofore signed several bills appropriating money for the same object and would not hesitate to do so now if the conditions upon which such appropriations have been hitherto made, had not been omitted in this. The lateness of the period at which the Bill has come to my hands puts it out of my power to do justice to the reasons upon which my decision is founded —

By the Act of Congreſs paſsed in 1802 to enable the people of the now State of Ohio to form a Constitution & State Government and for the admission of such State into the Union, three propositions were offered by the United States to the Convention of the said State

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ſtate for their free acceptance or rejection, and which if accepted by the ſaid Convention ſhould be obligatory on the United States.

The third ~~of~~ [illegible] proposition was "that one twentieth part of the nett proceeds of the lands lying within the ſaid State, ſold by Congreſs, from and after the 30th June then ~~next~~, after deducting all expences incident to the same, should be applied to the laying out and making public roads leading from the navigable waters emptying into the Atlantic, to the Ohio, to the said state and through the same; such road to be laid out under the authority of Congreſs, with the consent of the several states through which the same shall pass. Which propositions were on condition that the convention of the said State should provide by an ordinance irrevocable without the consent of the United States, that every and each tract of land sold by Congreſs, from and after the said Thirtieth day of June next should be and remain exempt from any tax laid by order or under the authority of the ~~said~~ state, whether for state, county, township or any other purpose whatever for the term of five years from and after the day of sale."

This proposal was accepted by the state of Ohio by an ordinance of her convention and the condition upon which it was offered, made forever obligatory upon the State. The five per centum of the nett proceeds of the sales of the public land thus reserved was subsequently reduced to two by appropriating the remaining three per centum to other objects for the benefit of said with the consent of the state. On the 29th of March 1806, during the administration of Mr Jefferson the first law was passed to carry the compact between the United States and the state of Ohio into effect - Being an act to regulate the laying out and making a road from Cumberland in the State of Maryland to the state of Ohio. By this law an appropriation ~~of~~ was made of thirty thousand dollars, to be paid out of any monies in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, reimbursable out of the said two per cent fund - In 1811 during the administration of Mr Madison another and larger appropriation was made to carry said object into effect, the money to be paid out of the Treasury in the first instance and replaced as before from the two per cent fund. In 1816 during the administration of Mr Madison the state of Indiana was admitted into the Union and a similar compact with similar solemnities entered into between the U. S. and that state, reserving the same amount of the nett proceeds of the land lying within said state to making a road or road leading to the said state under the direction of Congreſs. The state of Illinois was admitted into the Union in 1818 and a similar compact with similar solemnities entered into between the U. S. and that state, reserving the same amount of the nett proceeds of the land lying within said state to making a road or roads leading to the said state under the direction of Congress. From that period to the present a series of acts of Congreſs have been passed making, with perhaps occasional exceptions, annual appropriations amounting to more than two millions of dollars for making the Cumberland road to the state of Ohio, through the same to the state of Indiana, through the state of Indiana to the

5. state of Illinois and through the same, in fulfilment of the compact I have referred to; Acts which have received the constitutional sanction of every President of the United States from the period of Mr. Jefferson to the present time. Regarding the obligations thus solemnly incurred by the U.S. on the assumed validity of which three of the most important States of the Union have been admitted into the Confederacy, and which at the time of entering upon the duties of my office had been for more than twenty years in a regular course of fulfilment, as not presenting an open question either of expediency or constitutional authority, I followed the course of my predecessors in giving my sanction also to many bills of the same character. The form and condition of all the acts of Congress under which these successive appropriations have been made were, with the only exceptions, as far as I have discovered, of an unimportant one in the time of Mr. Monroe and a single one during my own administration, similar to the first, viz. that the money should be paid out of the Treasury in the first instance and re-imbursed out of the two per cent fund. In the instance referred to during my administration the omission of that condition in the grant escaped

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my observation in the pressure of business arising from the multitude of Bills which are sent to the President on the last night of the Session. The same was, I presume, the case in the other instances referred to and from the departure of those two Bills from the ~~ordinary~~ uniform course of legislation upon the subject I think it reasonable to presume that the omission was also accidental on the part of Congress. The severe and protracted struggle through which we have passed on the subject of Internal Improvements by the Federal Government is familiar to all. In ~~the~~ its course the case of the Cumberland Road and the Acts of this Government in regard to it have at all times been strenuously relied on as furnishing a precedent for the Exercise of like power in other cases. But the facts of the compacts which have been referred to & the charge of the advances made out of the Federal Treasury ~~upon~~ for the construction of the said Road, upon a fund growing out of the said compacts have placed that subject on grounds peculiar to itself & which have hitherto prevented those Acts from being used as Authority for embarking this Government

in a series of appropriations for Roads and Canals
where no such compact exist. On this occasion,
and, as I believe, for the first time, the condition which
has been so uniformly attached to the appropriations for
this object, viz. that the money should be a charge on the
two per cent fund, has been deliberately stricken out
of the Bill. I can conceive of no other adequate mo-
tive for a departure from that course now than a
desire to cause the appropriations contained in this Bill
to be hereafter regarded as a precedent for a general
system of appropriations for Internal Improvements.
I do not think it material to my present object to
examine the state of that fund or to pass upon the
probabilities as to its ever being sufficient to reim-
burse the monies which have been and may hereafter
be expended upon this object. It ~~has~~ is enough
for me to know that such has heretofore been the
character of these appropriations;— that no reasons
exist now for departing from the form hitherto ob-
served that have not existed for years; that it has
been owing to the peculiar features in them, which
I have briefly described, that they have presented no ob-
stacle to the establishment of those principles in re-
gard to the prosecution of Internal Improvements

by this Government which I have laboured to establish, and that a deliberate disregard of those considerations now could not fail to undo all that has been accomplished and throw wide open the doors to unrestricted federal legislation upon this subject.

Entertaining these views I am constrained to withhold my signature from the Bill and I repeat that I do so with unfeigned regret. Although the Cumberland Road has been a severe drain upon the Treasury, it has certainly not been without its political benefits. It has served in an eminent degree to open the eyes of the People of the United States to the consequences of embarking this government in a general system of Internal Improvements. It affords a most convincing illustration of the disastrous results ~~of~~ ~~the~~ which must have followed from the adoption by this Government of any of the magnificent schemes which have heretofore been pressed upon it. My hope was and is, that this Government ~~would have~~ would persevere to the end in fulfilling its plighted faith with the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; and more particularly do I regret that its course in so doing should be arrested at this time when by the joint legislation of this Government and that of the States of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, so successful a beginning has been made to rid the Federal Government altogether from any connection with the Road, by ceding the same to the States through which it passes.

Hoping that the future legislation of Congress may restore the subject to its wonted course, I return the Bill to the Senate in which it originated with these, my objections, to its becoming a law.

veto prepared
for the Cum=
=berland road
bill, of Mr Clays
amendment
striking out that
the appropriations
were to be refunded
out of the 2½ perct
fund allowed to
the new States —
this amendment
having restored —
the bill was ap-
=proved, and the
veto not necessary

A. J.

[1836?]

The receipts of duties on Foreign Wines in 1833
were about $200.000 less in consequence of the
discrimination in favour of those raised in
D
France — by our Treaty — About same in 1834
& 1835 — The gain also on her silks by the
duty being taken off nearly $300.000
a year — & which we are not bound by
Treaty to grant.

L. W.

Levi Woodbury

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Gain on Wines
& Silk by France
under the Treaty
of July 4th. 1831 —
to be looked at &
brought into view
in message —

[1836]?

Some of the most important radical measures recently instituted
in the Massachts. Legislature were suggested by Mr James. He wrote last
year a series of essays exposing the gaming policy of Insurance Offices,
& was the first to call public attention to the subject before the New
York fire excited universal suspicion. He drafted an order
last year for a committee of inquiry on this subject, comprising several
heads of examination, gave it to Mr. Rantoul, who offered it [illegible]
in the House. The current year Mr. James prepared some of the
most important Orders passed in the House – particularly that
which brought out the startling disclosures relative to Insurance
Companies – that some of them insured more than 10 Mill.s beyond
their capital &c. [redacted] He drafted a bill on the
subject of Oaths, for Mr. Hinckley, chairm. of the Comt. now a
member of State Coml. – but it was lost – Another order for the
Senate disclosing the amt. of Incorporated capital &c

The Bank investigations were first prompted by Mr James
& his father in law Huntington – the latter, an experienced Merchant
& Banker himself, supplied the Committees of 1835, & 1836, with
the information without which the present result wd. not have
been brot. about.

Mr. James drafted all the plans of party organization
when he carried against powerfully the title of "Democratic" for "Republican"
for the Jackson party in Boston from 1827 to Apl. 3d. 1835, when
his last plan was adopted at Faneuil Hall by both divisions
of the party unanimously. (See the Morning Post & Boston Chronicle
of that date) He also drafted the new scheme of party

Organization for the whole State, recommended it to Wm. Robinson a sturdy democrat of the House, from Marblehead, when it was after some amendments, unanimously adopted by ~~in~~ a Convention of Democratic members of the Legislature and Mr. James was chosen by that Convention, under the new organization, as one of the two members of the new State Committee, for the Commonwealth at large — there being also one member for each Congressional District — The same organization was unanimously sanctioned by the Democratic Convention of the People, held at Worcester 1835 — and again adopted by the Democratic legislative Convention for the current year —

John M. Fiske, at present a Weigher in the Boston Custom House, & Presdt. of a new Bank at Boston, has written a letter in favor of John K. Simpson, as Collector, which is on file in the Secretary's Office. In that letter Fiske classes Mr. James, whom he charges, with Wm. Foster, Robt. Rantoul Jun. & others, as one of the leaders of the Bulletin party —

The following is a copy of a letter written without solicitation by John M. Fiske in Decr. 1829 to Duff Green, on behalf of the County Committee of Middlesex — in favor of Mr. James — who had then been recommended by the Democratic State Comtee. — D. Henshaw, J.K. Simpson, Natl. Greene & others — for the office of Surveyor in opposition to Genl. McNeil, who succeeded — The copy was made at the house of Mr. Fiske, and in his presence, from the original draft.

supplied by Mr Fisk for that purpose: —

(Copy)

Charlestown Dec: 1st. 1829.

Gen. D. Green —

Sir —

Among the various appointments to office in this part of the country in the gift of the National Executive, our political friends regret that the services & claims of Mr. John W James, one of the most prominent, talented, & efficient of their associates, have as yet been overlooked. We learn that Mr James is named by his friends as a candidate for the Office of Surveyor of this port.

The Office is an important one, requiring intelligence, industry, and energy. In case of a vacancy the government could not select any one who is better qualified for the Station than is Mr James. In his younger days Mr James devoted most of his time to Mercantile pursuits, & obtained a thorough acquaintance with its duties, which few men possess. His claims cannot be disputed. During the last Presidential canvass, he was one of the most prominent & efficient supporters of the candidate of the people. He was an active & most valuable member of the Central Committee of this State, & most of the public documents proceeding from that Committee were from his polished & able pen. The celebrated Address presented to the Electors of Massachusetts, in support of Gen. Jackson, equal at least to any similar production in any part of our country, was the work of Mr James.

During the last two or three years so much of his time has been required by his political friends, that he has been compelled to relinquish his professional avocations. In fine if there be a man who has successfully devoted his time & talents unremittingly in aid of our great & good cause, with the purest & most patriotic motives, that man is Mr James.

Do your political friends ask too much when they solicit your aid in support of the claims of one of the ablest and most meritorious of their political associates?

Most respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
(signed) Jno. M Fiske, Chairman Middlesex
County Committee.

[1836]

Extracts from Mr Websters Speech on the Bank Charter in 1816. He was against chartering the Bank.

" It was a mistaken idea, he said, which he had heard uttered on this subject that we were about to reform the National currency. No nation had a better currency, he said, than the United States – there was no nation which had guarded its currency with more care; for the framers of the constitution, and those who enacted the early statutes on this subject were hard money men; they had felt and duly, and therefore duly appreciated the evils of a paper medium: they therefore, sedulously guarded the currency of the United States from debasement. The legal currency of the United States was Gold and Silver coin. This was a subject in regard to which Congress had run into no folly!"

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2/ What then he asked, was the present evil? Having a perfectly sound national currency; and the government have no power in fact to make any thing else current but Gold & Silver, there had grown up in the different states a currency of paper issued by banks setting out with the promise to pay gold & silver, which they they had been wholly unable to redeem" ~~here note – the hands of the state bound by the constitution to make nothing but [illegible] currency [illegible]~~

"The legal standard of value was gold and silver; the relation of paper to it proved its state, and the rate of its depreciation. Gold and Silver currency, he said, was the law of the land at home and the law of the world abroad. there could in the present state of the world, be no other currency. In consequence of the immense paper issues having banished specie from

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3/ circulation, the government had been obliged, in direct violation of existing statutes, to receive the amount of their taxes in something which was not recognised by law as the money of the country." —

In a speech on the 26th April 1816 on the subject of specie payments Mr Webster thus expressed himself;

"Before the war the business of the country was conducted principally by means of the paper of the different state Banks. As these were in good credit, and paid their notes in gold and silver on demand, no great evil was experienced from the circulation of their paper.

Not

4/ Not being, however, part of the legal money of the country, it could not, by law, be received in the payment of duties, taxes or other debts to government. But being payable, and hitherto regularly paid, on demand, the collectors and agents of the government had generally received it as cash. It had been deposited as cash in the banks which received the deposits of government, and from time to time been drawn as cash, and paid off to creditors of the public".

"During the war this state of things changed. &c &c &c

Notes of Mr Webster's
Speech on the curr=
=ency—1816— like
an enlightened jurist
& constitution law=
=yer—compare this with
his speech in 1836, on
Mr Ewings rescinding
resolution of the
Treasury order—the
contrast—is changed
position, & governed
by N. Biddle & Bank
influence—what a
change of morals, &
ought to make the
people more vigilant
of their constitutional
rights, & the agents
they employ as le=
=gislators, to preserve
them— A. J.

~~88~~ 86.

To A. Jackson

President of the United States

Sir

A number of gentlemen of enterprise and capital, looking to the great increase of the commerce of the District of Columbia by the opening of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, have directed their enquiries as to the proper & probable point where this trade will concentrate, and they have been lead to the conclusion that Mason's tract at the south abutment of the Potomac Bridge is the place which uncontrolable natural causes obviously designate. They have therefor with a view to the erection of a permanent City at this point, formed an association of which we are made the organ to address you on the subject. Considering your name as the property of the nation & of posterity, they have appropriated it to the contemplated city, and have called it "Jackson City".

They are well aware that the enterprise as presented, does not exhibit a grandeur corresponding with the splendor of the names, but they equally know that great results

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are from small beginnings; and they cannot but feel sanguine that at no distant day "Jackson City" will not be unworthy of its name.

It has appeared to them also as peculiarly proper that the second man of the nation should have his name placed by the side of the first: and we trust that by the efforts of ourselves & successors, aided by the strength of this "giant Country", that "Jackson City" will grow in happy unison with Washington City.

It might be proper, Sir, that we offer you an apology for this use of your name without your consent; but we hope to find our forgiveness in the uniform kindness of your Character; and relying upon this we are emboldened to ask of you a farther favor. — That you would honor us and give dignity to our enterprise by assisting with us, to lay the corner stone of the contemplated City on the
day of

With every sentiment of respect and admiration for your private & public Virtues, we have the honor to be
Your obt. Servt.

Jos. N. Forrest
Daniel Jackson

Geo. Hall

Saml Cassedy

Wm L Hudson

Wm W Smith

Geo L Strong

Morgan L Smith

20382

Daniel Jackson
Esqr & others.
notifying me of
the Jackson City
laid out on the
west Bank of the
potomac and
requesting me to
attend at laying
the foundation
stone — A. J.

[1836]?

"The Presidential election depends on N.Y. I think. The Whiggys are ~~sending~~ bending their force there. Thad Stevens spends his whole time along the line of Penn.a & New York to Colonize. They have money plenty. The abolition funds raised in England are applied to election purposes. Penn.a will go for VanBuren by a large Majority."

The above is an extract from a very intelligent gentleman in Penn.a to his friend in Washington City.

Mr Fox of Bucks county Pa – I have written to
get the proofs & particularly Fox's name given and he
mentioned which I mention what means he has to make
proof. Of the fact that the British money raised
both on the score of the Slave interest in our contest &
the abolition cause ~~[illegible]~~ is applied to the corruption
fund, none of our friends [illegible] in Doubt

F.P.B.

20383

Extract to be
shown to the
Editor of the
Union Nashville

F. P. Blair

1836.

Upon being presented to you, Sir, as His Britannick Majesty's Representative in the United States, – in this Great Union over which you so nobly preside, – I take occasion to say that it shall be my most anxious endeavour to promote in all things the relations of Peace and Friendship

between

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between the Two Countries.- I shall so best fulfil the commands of my Sovereign.-

I am fortunate, Sir, in having arrived in America at a moment, when peculiar political circumstances have afforded to the British Government a gratifying opportunity of strengthening those feelings of good will and attachment, which do now, and ought

ever,

ever to animate our two
kindred Nations. —

Mr. Foxs [illegible] rep
upon being pre=
=sented to the Pre=
=sident or Minister
from the Court
of England — to be
preserved — A. J.

Charles Stephen Fox

1836

Statement of Distribution of Surplus revenue of $30,000,000 amongst the several States, agreeably to number of Electoral votes for President and according to the Constitutional mode of direct Taxation by representative Population, and the differences arising from those two modes of distribution — As per Census of 1830.

	Representative population	Electoral vote	Amts of Share according to System of Direct tax	Amt of Share according to Electoral Vote	Difference in favour of Direct Tax mode	Difference in favour of Elect. Vote mode
Maine	399.454	10	$ 999.370.5	1,020.408.2		$ 21.037.7
N. Hampshire	269.327	7	673.813.4	714.285.7		40.472.3
Massachusetts	610.408	14	1.527.142.9	1.428.571.4	$ 98.573.5	
R. Island	97.192	4	243.158.9	408.163.3		165.004.4
Connecticut	297.665	8	744.710.6	816.326.5		71.716.9
Vermont	280.652	7	702.146.7	714.285.7		12.139.–
New York	1.918.578	42	4.799.977.7	4.285.714.3	514.263.4	
New Jersey	319.921	8	800.391.5	816.326.5		15.935
Pennsylvania	1.348.072	30	3.372.662.–	3.061.224.5	311.437.5	
Delaware	75.431	3	188.716.3	306.122.5		117.406.2
Maryland	405.842	10	1.015.352.3	1.020.408.2		5.055.9
Virginia	1.023.502	23	2.560.640.6	2.346.938.8	213.701.8	
N. Carolina	639.747	15	1.600.545.5	1.530.612.2	69.933.3	
S. Carolina	455.025	11	1.138.400.3	1.122.448.9	15.951.4	
Georgia	429.811	11	1.075.318.9	1.122.448.9		47.130.–
Alabama	262.507	7	656.751.8	714.285.7		57.534.9
Mississippi	110.357	4	276.096.7	408.163.3		132.067.6
Louisiana	171.904	5	430.076.5	510.204.1		80.127.6
Tennessee	625.263	15	1.564.308.8	1.530.612.2	33.696.6	
Kentucky	621.832	15	1.555.725.–	1.530.612.2	25.112.8	
Ohio	937.901	21	2.346.479.5	2.142.857.1	203.622.4	
Indiana	343.030	9	858.206.5	918.367.4		60.160.9
Illinois	157.146	5	393.154.3	510.204.1		117.049.8
Missouri	130.419	4	326.286.6	408.163.3		81.876.7
Arkansas	28.557	3	71.445.–	306122.5		234.677.5
Michigan	31.625	3	79.120.7	306122.5		227.001.8
	11.991.168	294	30.000.000.5	30,000,000,0	1,486,291.7	1,539.392.2

~~The above calculations are extended to the tenth of a Dollar.~~

53.100 less

15

1.486.291 1.486.291

20386

1,520,423

The apportionment, of the surpluss revenue on the hypothetical sum of 30.000,000—by Sec. of the Treasury A. 9

13

Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

X [1836]?

This my fellow citizens, is a great and momentous crisis in our ~~political~~ national affairs in which our dearest rights as freemen are deeply concerned,- the presidential election is near at hand, which will decide the fate of our republican system, whether it will be perpetuated on the great prin- laid down in our written constitution or changed to a great consolidated Govern-ment in which the rights of the States shall be destroyed, the confederation trodden under-foot, & our glorious union burst asunder, and your constitutional liberty lost forever- -its destiny is in your hands - the hands of the sovereign people, at the polls the 3d of November you decide this all important question for weal or for woe - If you cast your votes for that well tried republican, Martin VanBuren your republican system is perpetuated & placed upon a durable foundation, that I seriously believe will last forever, Cast your votes for Genl Harrison, the chosen candidate, of the apostate republicans, - the abolitionists and blue light federalists and your constitutional liberties is gone forever, and will end like that of ancient Rome Then I say to you go to the polls like independent freemen, bearing in your minds, the blood, the

20369

treasures; the days of toil, and nights of watchfulness it cost your revolutionary fathers to procure, & bequeath to you the invaluable boon of those blessings of liberty which we enjoy, and which every obligation we owe to posterity binds us to hand down to them un=impaired. Then fellow Citizens I say to you go to the poles on the 3rd of November next with that independent spirit with which your revolutionary fathers fought & conquered; go I say looking steadfastly at the stars & stripes # the banner of your country give your votes, to the democratic candidate, Martin VanBuren, that pure, undeviating & well tried republican, and your liberty is safe. you thereby snatch the republican system from that peril that awaits it, and to which it is now brought by the combination of all the factions of apostate republicans, abo=litionists, and blue light federalists leagued together for the purpose of destroying your constitutional Government, and to raise upon its ruins, & your liberties, a great consolidated Government, based upon the combined money powers of England and america, and to make the laboring & producing

the ~~[illegible]~~ banners of your countries glory under which your revolutionary fathers fought & conquered

20890

classes of our country Hewers of wood
and drawers of water for their aggran=
=dizement – Remember my fellow
citizens the fate of ancient Rome –
Remember that by corruption and
the combined corrupt factions she
lost her liberty – I say to you vote for the candi=
=date of this combined and corrupt
faction whose candidate is silent
& will not answer any question
you ask him & in which your
important rights are deeply con=
=cerned, ~~and~~ you seal the fate of
your constitutional freedom
I say again fellow citizens
remember the fate of ancient
Rome & vote for no candidate
who will ~~not~~ tell you with the
frankness of an independent
freeman the principles upon which if elec=
=ted, he will administer your
Government – that man deserves
to be a slave who would vote
for a man candidate whose
his liberty was at stake – can a
freeman who values his rights vote
for any man, who when asked for his
principles insults you by the reply, I
will answer no questions, coming either from

20390

A few more words and I must close

from friend or foe. I answer, for you that no man writing to be free, com-

Speech favor-
ing Van Buren's
election as Pres.

[1836]

Genl Santa Anna, has made known his
wishes, to have the dispute between M. & Texas
settled without further effusion of blood, and
that S. be free & [illegible] to the United States -
=he has no power to act here - but wishes to
know what the U. S. will do in the matter -
- suggests that Mexico, would rather ex=
=tend the line & transfer the country [illegible] to the U. S. - The
^ [illegible] to the U. for consideration [illegible]
was answered that as matters now stood, the
U. S. could not act in the matter until
we were placed in a situation to know
the disposition of the Texians, by their [illegible] when we
would with pleasure when asked, inter
=pose with our good offices to settle the
matter & restore harmony between them
until Texas is acknowledged independent
we cannot receive her minister or
hold any correspondence with Texas
a nation - And as the Genl thro his minister
^ here, we can only instruct our minister
at Mexico to receive any proposition
his government may make on the
subject - until we hear her views - If Mexico
we cannot speak to propositions, as we
will make such existing circumstances
believe [illegible] ought to be [illegible] their action considerably. We -
^ we can [illegible] will extend the line
of the U. States
^ to the Rio grand - up that stream to lati=
=tude 38 north & then to the pacific
including north california - we might
instruct our minister to give them three

20391

of dollars
millions & a half and deal then as it
respected Texas as a magnanimous
nation ought to it in the Treaty with
Mexico, secure the Texians in all
their just & legal rights, & admit them
into the United States as one of the
union — These rights fully secured to Texas
the would probably consent to the
act — but before we promise any
thing Genl Santana must say that
he will use his influence to sus
=pend hostilities untill those pro
=positions are made to our minister
& the matter [illegible] be amicably adjusted
if it can be — And the Genl can say
whether the boundary named or the sandy would [illegible]
one which he will agree to, or if
any part, what, he will object to
Texas claims to the rio grand by
conquest — But it must be under=
=stood, that this proposition is made
to meet the views of the Genl, and
not by the U. States to acquire Terri
=tory or take advantage of the disturbed
state of Mexico but to meet the wishes
of her government & secure peace
& tranquility on our respective bord
& lay the foundation of a permanent
tranquility between the U. S. & Mexico
that has so happily existed, & which has
been like to have been interrupted
by the civil war in Texas —

At home
January 1st 1838

My dear Uncle

I went to Nashville as I informed you by the letter mailed there yesterday, but was unable to see Laughlin. Being unwilling to remain all night from my children, my business with him will remain unadjusted until I make another visit to Nashville, which I expect to do in the course of a day or two.

On my return home I found your two letters of the 16th and 17th ulto at the Fountain of health Post office. I shew the latter letter to Stockly. It is remarkable that your dream should have had so literal an interpretation in the dispensation of Providence which deprived me of

20592

my dear wife. It was on that night that death warned her of his presence, and that she exercised her power to triumph over his ravages.

I enclose you a paper containing the obituary notice which Mr. Edgar was kind enough to prepare. He had read your letter to her of the 27th November believing that its publication could do you no harm, and that it was essential to convey to her friends a just idea of her fortitude and resignation.

accept my prayers for the recovery of your health and for your enjoyment of every earthly happiness.

Yr. grateful & affectionate
Nephew
A J Donelson

Genl. Andrew Jackson

Extract of a letter from Mr. Hughes, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States at Stockholm, to Mr. Forsyth, dated January 1st, 1837.

"I have heard, and with great concern and sorrow, that is, I have read in the newspapers an account of the President's illness. I trust he has entirely recovered, and that he may live many years yet to enjoy the honorable, dignified, and glorious retirement that he has earned by his noble and patriotic labors and devotion.

You will be receiving this letter but some few days, perhaps, before the President's retirement from public life! May I, so small and unimportant a personage as I certainly am, and as I certainly feel myself to be, may I pray of you, Sir, to offer my homage and most sincere respects and cordial good wishes to the President? And may I assure you that they are accompanied by a genuine and

ardent

20393

ardent feeling of gratitude and thankfulness to him for the many marks of kindness he has shown to me during his administration! I have always felt, and I have always expressed, a sincere sense of *obligation* to General Jackson for his continuing me in the public service, and in the diplomatic employment of his Government. I had never had the advantage or the honor of knowing him, or even of *seeing* him; nor did I ever see him until my visit to America, by his leave, in 1833. I, therefore, could have no claim on his friendship, nor to any personal favor. True, I hope and believe that my long and faithful service gave me some claim, on *public* grounds, to be retained and continued in the profession and career to which I had devoted *my life*, and *into* which I had been *invited* by Mr. Monroe, and by Mr. Madison! for I was no applicant; and my *first* post as Secretary of the Mission Extraordinary at Ghent, was *voluntarily*,

and

and by *autograph* letter, offered to me by Mr. Monroe, with the approbation of, and even the desire that I should accept it, by Mr. Madison. Mr. Monroe's letter to that effect I still have. I believe I may confidently say that I served faithfully and satisfactorily, and had many testimonials to to that effect; but still I was *unknown* to General Jackson, and whatever may be felt or said by others, as for *myself*, I, *at* the time and always *since* felt and expressed a sense of the favor and kindness of General Jackson in his continuing me in the diplomatic service; and now, when he is about to quit the great public scene on which he has *performed* so memorable and so glorious a part, and when I cannot possibly have any motive or interest to express sentiments and to proffer acknowledgments that I do not feel, I beg to be permitted, gratefully and respectfully, to tender my sincere respects — my genuine thanks and acknowledgments, and my *heartfelt good wishes* to the venerable and illustrious

and

and benevolent patriot whose name will live, at home and abroad, in the admiration and honor not merely of this paſsing day, but during all Time! and you, my dear Sir, will confer an obligation on me if you will communicate these my feelings and sentiments to the President on some fitting occasion, if you think the communication worthy to be made." —

Washington City Jany 6th 1837

Dear Sir

In a speech which was made by
Judge White at Jonesboro, Ten, and which
has been published in the papers of that
State and elsewhere He stated in substance
(I have not his speech before me) that you
was asked how I stood in relation to the
Administration and the coming election
for President and that your reply
was I do not know how he stands,
I believe he is upon the fence, and it is uncer-
tain which side he will drop!

The first time I saw Judge White after the
publication of his speech, I requested to
know who was his author in regard to the
expression you was said to have made
He gave me the name of Mr Obrian
of Washington County Ten, as the person
who heard you make the expression
It seems that one of my Colleagues and an

20395

an honourable member from Virginia has thought proper to reiterate this charge upon the floor of Congress in the discussion of a question of a Gentleman now pending and undetermined in the House of Repre-sentatives Not having any acquaint-ance with Mr Obrien and having some doubts in regard to the accuracy of his Statements, I hope you will not deem it disrespectful in me to ask from you a refutation or a confirma-tion of it I Know Sir that the weighty affairs of Government which draws so largely upon your time and attention leaves you but little time to attend to small matters like this Yet it has become one of considerable importance to me or it has been made so through the agency of Others

As I do not consider that I occupied the doubtful position assigned me, and having no reason to believe you would Knowingly do me the least injury

injury, or injustice I ask with the most confidence your answer, as early as it may be convenient

With sentiments of respect
I have the honor to your
most Obet Servt &c
Adam Huntsman

Genl Andrew Jackson

20396

A. Huntsman
dated 1st of Jany
1837 —— and
answer of the
2d Jany—37 written—
to be preserved— A. J.

Severe on Judge White.

Andrew Jackson
President U.S.
Washington City

Enclosing J's
answer

No. WASHINGTON, 2d January 1837

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to E. H. Young *or Bearer,*

fiftynine & *Dollars* 75/100

$59=75

Andrew Jackson

10597

Washington
January 2d 1837

Sir,

your letter of the first instant is before me. I have not the slightest recollection of having made the remarks in reference to your speech it seems from your note of date ~~yester~~day was imputed ~~to by~~ judge White to me in a speech at Jonesborough Tennessee. I do not know, nor have I any recollection of the witness to whom judge White refers you. I have no acquaintance with any of the OBrian family, and it is scarcely possible that I should have entered into the familiar discourse described by judge White with a perfect stranger without retaining some trace on my memory of the man, or of the extraordinary questioning to which it would seem he subjected me. If I had been interrogated about you, by one whom I thought entitled to take such liberty, I should have said to ~~told~~ him that I esteemed you from your votes & course in congress, as a friend to the administration. that in regard to the then pending election for president, you were the avowed friend of White, but willing to give effect to the wishes of your constituents if they preferred Mr Van Buren, in case the election devolved ~~went~~ on the House of Representatives.

20398 It is however superfluous ~~unnecessary for~~ to labour to contradict the fabrications put forth by Judge White and his Speechmakers, who it seems, from your note, are repeating the stories made up for their electioneering harangues in the House of Representati – the public know how to estimate their assertio. If it were worth the trouble, there is not one of their narratives with which they have connected my name, so far as I have heard, that could no be proved as mere fiction by all the person whom they represent as bearing a part ~~having a part~~ in what they pretend to describe.

But I do not blame these subalterns – Judge White himself in his Knoxville Spee did not hesitate to lead the way in this sort of traduction. To distinguish his own purity a claim credit for disinterested moderation in declining the vice Presidency (and at the same moment when he was seeking the Presidency itself & electioneering for it, by boasting of this incomparable modesty) he gave the people of Tennessee to understand that I had attempted to purchase his support of Mr. Van Buren, by ~~the~~ an offer of the vice Presi=dency as the first consideration, with the presidency itself in reversion. There never wa a grosser libel than this – there is about as much truth in it, as there was sincerity, in that lame apology in the judges letter

– to Mr Pryor Lea, wherein judge White pretends he was desirous to prevent my election to the Senate of the United States & send my bitterest enemy to that body, giving him a high station whence to scatter calumnies against me, merely for my good; namely to advance my pretensions to the chief magistracy by saving me from the suspicion of accepting the senatorial office as a means of electioneering for myself! – an office which he lately accepted precisely under the circumstances which subjected him to the identical imputation, from which he was so anxious to screen me." This, and many ~~other~~ recent developments of character shew, that judge White under strong temptation has a lax code of morals for himself – and his remarkable readiness to invent pretexts to cover the naked, and palpable selfishness of his late tergiversation, and multiplied inconsistencies, shews, that he need not tax the invention of his subordinate instruments, for falsehoods to suit his exigencies – Whether, then, he has fabricated himself the improbable story to which you refer, in addition to the other shameful imputations with which he has associated my name, or is indebted for them to some of his numerous family of the OBrions

20399

is matter of but little importance to me—
They all now stand in equal credit with
the country.

I am sir yr mo obt
Andrew Jackson

The Honble Adam Huntsman—

P.S. As judge White has been the subject of your letter & my reply to it— you will please shew him this my answer A. J.

January 2, 1837

A. Jackson Jr. esq

To E. Young Dec-12th 1836

1836		
June 4	To Pr of Suspenders	2.50
" " "	Blk. Stock	1.25
Dec 12 "	2 Surtutes for Servants	56.00
		$ 59.75

Recd payment

Jany 2. 1837 E Young
Pr A.P. Young

20719

A. Jackson Jr. esq

Present

№

WASHINGTON, Jany 3d — 1837.

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to Doctor H. Hunt — or Bearer,

one hundred and seventy five Dollars $\frac{\quad}{100}$.

$175 ———

Andrew Jackson

20400

№

WASHINGTON, Jany 3d — 1837.

BANK OF TH[illegible]ETROPOLIS,

Pay to John Kenned[illegible]reasurer) — or Bearer,

Eight ——— Dollars $\frac{12.42}{100}$.

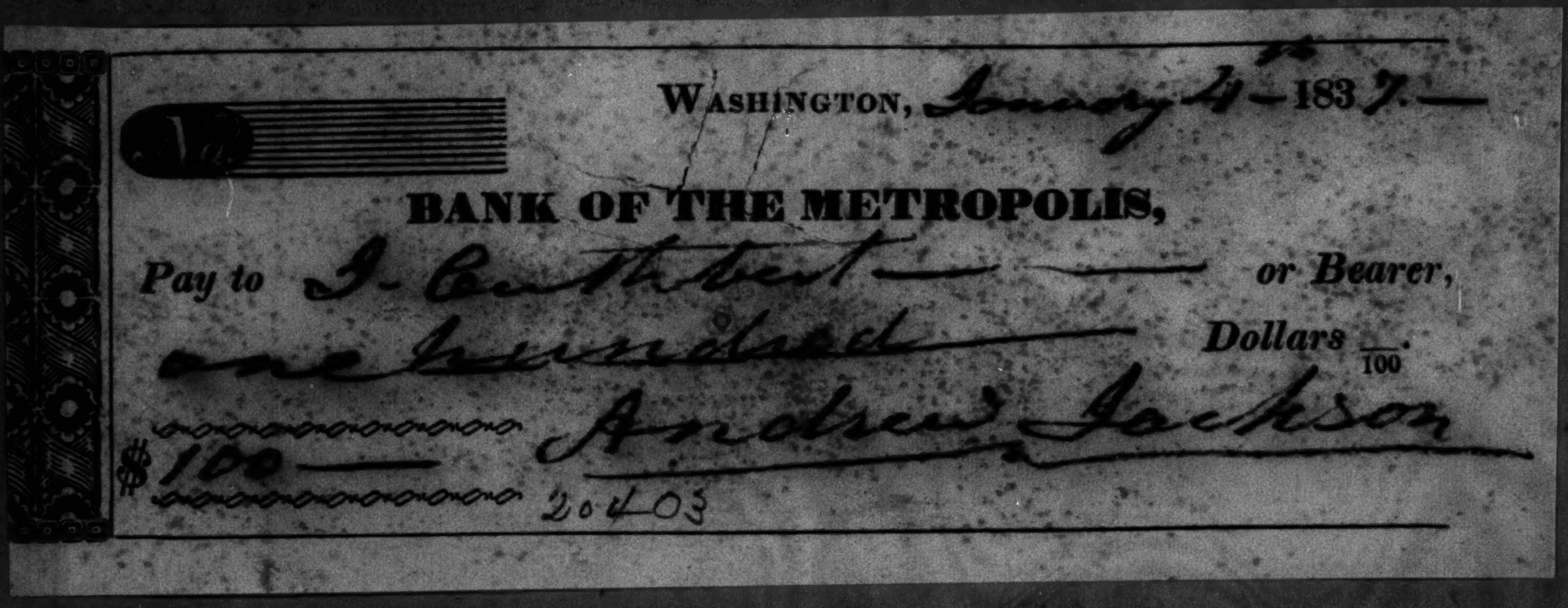
$8=12.42

Andrew Jackson

20401

H Smith

[illegible]



No.

WASHINGTON, January 4th 1837

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to J. Cuthbert or Bearer,

one hundred Dollars $\frac{}{100}$.

$100

Andrew Jackson

20403

Washington
January 4th 1837 –

Gentlemen,

I feel very sensibly the honor you have done me in blending the celebration of the late triumph in Pennsylvania with the anniversary of the 8th of January – However dissimilar the mode of achievement, you justly consider them alike in their results; – ~~They were both the victories won by the working classes of our country~~ they defended and have advanced the cause of freedom – the were both victories, won by the ~~laboring~~ working classes of our countrymen over rapacious invaders – the phisical force of the disciplined foreign mer=cenaries, was not more formidable than the subtle, poisoning influence of the combined and thoroughly organized foreign banking power, which in the seductive shape of an ally, seeks to enslave the industry of our country – this can never be accomplished untill it has succeeded in corrupting the public agents; – The recent signal rebuke given by the honest yeomanry of Pennsylvania to the boldest attempts of this sort ever directed against any single State of the union, deserves commemoration – It is the crowning glory of the States incomparable patriotism –

want of health and the pressing weight of public duties, would deny me the

the power of attending your festival, even if inclination could survive the late domestic affliction which has fallen upon me. The remainder of my life will probably be estranged from such scenes — but while my heart throbs, its strongest emotions will be awakened in grateful sympathy for every rejoicing for the success of the cause to which your celebration is dedicated.

I am Gentlemen with
great respect your
friend & fellow citizen
Andrew Jackson

Messrs
A. Brakenridge
T. B. Dallas
James P. Stuart
E. J. Roberts
Saml Frew
Leonard S. Johns
John Tiebett
Michael McSharry
Robert Gloss
John Birmingham
J. McDonald
Chambers McKibbin
Wm H Smith
Thos Hamilton
J. K. Moorehead
& David Lynch —

committee

(Copy) Washington Jany 4th 1837

Gentlemen,

The kind manner which you have addressed me, inviting me to meet my friends of the city of Philadelphia on the 8th of January effects me deeply. The honor you do me as a public man, although well appreciated is not half so dear to me, as the feeling of personal attachment among my fellow citizens, which you inform me solicits an opportunity of giving me a heartfelt welcome before bidding me a sincere farewell to the shades of the Hermitage. present debility and the pressure of public business will, with other causes, deprive me of this last occasion of shewing how strongly I recipro=:cate the kind & disinterested regard, which has animated my friends in Philadelphia to support me through so many trials and at such sacrafices to themselves — they will I trust find some reward, in the consciousness that they have battled for one, who at least, meant well for his country.

I am Gentleman with sincere
respect your friend & fellow
citizen Signed

Messrs
Henry Simpson }
Henry Horn & } Andrew Jackson
others committee Phila }

210406

Washington, January 4th 1837

Private

Dear Sir,

In your last, you request me to inform you, what will be the fate of the Presidents recommendation divorcing the Government from the Banks. I have delayed answering until I could ascertain to a probable degree what the result would be - I have come to the conclusion, that we shall succeed in carrying the measure in both houses - in the Senate, there is no doubt; in the house, there is less certainty, but I think, the measure cannot fail - The delay in ~~of~~ presenting the Bill in the Senate, is to be accounted for in this way - Long since the Bill has been prepared, several copies made out, and placed in the hands of some of us, to confer with our friends in private, and thereby collect the sentiments of as many as possible in relation to the details, so that we may be able to present an unbroken front, and act with energy, when the battle commences - The Conservatives, have not as yet united with us, nor will they do it fully; a part will - Preston of South Carolina and one or two representatives from that State will Join the opposition, the others will unite with us - You once told me, Clay would throw himself upon the Non Slaveholding States - I told you, that was impossible - I would not use as strong language now, He will be the Candidate for the Presidency against Mr Vanburen - this I consider a point settled, - I have been confined for three days with my sore foot, I am now about and shall attend the Senate after to day The Senate will not set tomorrow (Saturday) The Comtee on the Steamboat Bill will meet at my room tomorrow - It is a measure, I have greatly at heart - If the five million Bank has passed the Assembly in Tennessee, I should think that might satisfy the rage for Banking in the State without a ll States Bank, unless, the latter should be deemed necessary, to eat up the former - Mr Vanburen stands up to his high duties like a man, there is no flinching in him - I shall advise of our proceedings from time to time

your friend

Felix Grundy

20408

Judge Grundy
answered 29th
January 1838
A.J.

Washington January 6th 1837—

Sir,

your letter of the 27th ultimo, with the poem, your ~~very pleased to~~ ~~[illegible]~~ dedicated to me, has been received with those grateful feelings which the sentiments contained in it, were so well calculated to inspire— altho the sublime ~~panegyric~~ of your poem, bestow much higher encomiums upon me, and my public services than they merit, still the patriotic feelings that inspired the presentation to me, receives, as they ought, a tender of my grateful acknowledgements, & thanks.

May you, with your amiable wife and nine children be blessed in this world with all the prosperity a kind providence can bestow, and after long and well spent lives, a happy immortality is the ardent prayer of your fellow citizen

Andrew Jackson

Nathan L. Foster
East Haddam Centre
Connecticut

20407

General Andrew Jackson

Sir!

The original letter of which the enclosed is a copy is in my possession. The motives which induced that disposition of it, may be explained hereafter.

If I have already too long delayed, to make known to you the existence of this letter, or presume in doing so at all; the motives by which I have been influenced heretofore, as well as those which operate now, if duly appreciated, will secure me from censure. Should it be otherwise, a conviction of their purity, will be a perfect consolation.

In what views, or under what influence, the enclosed may have originated, could never be imagined. It bears on its face so much of singularity both of matter and manner; that it may perhaps with best effect be left to speak for itself.

Independantly of a mass of evidence in my possession Mr. Monroe has fortunately had the opportunity, immediately before his death, and in the most solemn manner of recording his views of this matter. It is for the purpose of affording you a similar occasion, should you think proper to improve it, to vindicate the claims of justice and truth in behalf of the living and the dead, that the copy herewith, is now placed in your hands.

I respectfully solicit the favor to be assured of the receipt of this letter.

With great respect

Yr. Obt. Sr.

Saml. L. Gouverneur

New York 6 Jany 1837.

20409

No.

W HINGTON, 7th Janry - 1837.

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to Joseph Bryan *or Bearer,*

Fifty nine *Dollars* 75/100

$59.75

Andrew Jackson

20411

No.

WASHINGTON, 7th Janry - 1837.

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to Andrew Jackson, Senr - *or Bearer,*

Twenty five *Dollars* /100.

$25

Andrew Jackson

20412

Andrew Jackson President of the United States

Jany 7th 1837 to Joseph Bryan Dr

to making large box & packing the picture representing the unfurling the American flag in mexico	9	25
making box & packing large map	8	12½
large box for 3 busts & packing	6	25
box for 2 busts & packing	5	25
1 box 3 feet 4 by 3 feet 8 & packing 2 pictures	2	75
1 do 2 feet 8 by 2 feet 3 & packing 3 pictures	2	25
1 do 2 feet 7 by 2 feet 11 & packing 3 pictures	2	25
1 do 3 feet 4 by 2 feet 11 & packing 2 pictures	2	50
1 do 2 feet 6 by 2 feet 3 & packing 3 pictures	2	25
1 do 4 feet 3 by 3 feet & packing 2 pictures	2	75
3 boxes for books & papers and packing a 150	4	50
cover to large picture box	1	75
to box for 3 pictures & packing	2	87½
1 do for 4 pictures & packing	2	62½
1 do for 6 pictures & packing	2	87½
1 do for 3 pictures & packing	1	50
Washington January 3rd 1837	$ 59	75

Received pay 7 Jany 1837.

Joseph Bryan

20413 -

WASHINGTON, Jan'y 7th 1837.

No.

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to James Cuthbert —— *or Bearer,*

one hundred —— *Dollars* $\frac{\quad}{100}$

Andrew Jackson

$100 ——

20414

Treasury Department
January 7th 1837

Sir

In obedience to the Regulations for carrying into effect the Treaties with the Chickasaws, which were approved by you the 4th of November 1835, requiring a semi-annual report of the Receipts and Disbursements under those Treaties, to be laid before you, I have the honor to submit the following report for the six months, ending 31st ulto

In the exhibit from this Department, presented on the 30th of
June last, it was stated there had been received for Chickasaw
lands sold, the first five months of the present year, $673,705:53,
of which sum the Receiver had paid over, as required by law,
$660,700:72 leaving then in his possession unaccounted for $ 13,004:81
It appears from subsequent returns he was paid in June 16,771:17
July 4,605:56
August 3,604:90
September 381,440:47
October 437,886:09
November 530,833:57

(No return received for December)

Making altogether to be accounted for by the Receiver $1,387,706:57

In his June return he states he paid for error in the sale of a tract of land $199:75
same month paid Warrants, mentioned in former report to you $20,000
Receiver paid Decatur Bank in July 22 6,500
September 23 $10,000
October 7 $381,440:47
November 11 $102,559.53
He paid salaries of Land Officers 2,038.16
He deposited in the Branch of the Agricultural Bank at Pontotoc
Nov 11 — $334,826.56
Dec 9 530,142.10

Making the whole amount received for returns $1,387,706:57

20415

The payments by the Receiver to the Bank at Decatur were to complete a contract with that institution, mentioned in my former report, for 500 Alabama state Bonds, bearing 5 per cent interest, payable semi-annually at New Orleans. The sums above recited, with a previous payment of $19.500 made in the month of May, constituted the amount to be paid the Decatur Bank. The bonds have all been received, and the coupons for interest due to the first of this month forwarded to New Orleans for payment.

Advice of the sum last deposited in the Branch of the Agricultural Bank at Pontotoc, amounting to $530.142:10 having been received only a few days the Department has not had an opportunity to make the most advantageous investment of it. The necessary enquiries have been instituted, that the sum on hand may be invested in state stocks as early as practicable.

The deposit in this Bank, Nov 11, of $334,826:56 was brought into the Treasury, and the amount of $150,000 advanced heretofore to carry into effect the Chickasaw treaties returned to the Treasury, as required by the act of April 20. 1836, and $158,534:93 of Indiana State Bonds, not having more than 20 years to run, and bearing 5 per cent interest, payable semi-annually, have been purchased for the Chickasaws, leaving of this deposit undrawn the sum of $26,291.63.

In my former report to you, it appeared the money from these land sales, brought then into the Treasury was

$639.250:72 which sum had been reduced in paying for
stocks, &c. as therein stated, $534.383:17, leaving a balance
in the Treasury, on the 30th of June, of $54,867:55. This sum
has been increased by the balance of the deposit at
Pontotoc, brought into the Treasury as before remarked,
of $26.291:63, and by interest paid on the Alabama
bonds and brought into the Treasury also, since the June
report $15.750, and has been diminished by salaries
of clerks, newspaper advertising &c. $1.550:15, leaving
a balance in the Treasury of $95.359:03, to be
increased by the last deposit in the Branch of the
Agricultural Bank at Pontotoc of Dec 9, of $530,142:10,
making a total of $625,501:13, now on hand, from the
sale of the Chickasaw lands & interest on the bonds held.

The interest on the stocks purchased for the Chickasaws
amounts to $21.516.87, as appears from the following exhibit:—

on the 65 Alabama bonds first purchased there was paid the first of May last	$ 166:83
315 Alabama bonds there was paid the first November	7,875:00
Now in the Treasury	$ 8,041:83
On the 1st of January 1837 there will be due on 250 Tennessee bonds	6,930:00
on the 1st of this month there was due on 500 Alabama bonds bought of the Bank of Decatur about	2,175:29
	$ 17,147:12
To this sum add the interest on 315 Alabama bonds from the first of November, to which time it was paid, and the interest on 500 bonds from 1st of December, all to this date, [although this item will not then be payable it places the interest of all the purchases at one date]	4,369:75
	$ 21.516:87

When the whole receipts from the Chickasaw land sales shall
all be invested on such terms as it can be, an annual in-
come will be secured that nation of nearly $100000

All of which is respectfully submitted

Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

20416

Jany 10th 1834

Chickesaw fund – investment by the Secretary of the Treasury & report by him of the same

A. J

Copy

New York January 8th 1837

To Andrew Jackson
President of the United States,
Sir,

A number of your Democratic Republican fellow citizens, resident of this City, being desirous to expreſs their estimation of your Character and public services, on occasion of your retirement from the high office which you have filled for the last eight years with so much credit to yourself and with such signal advantage to our Common Country; and also to manifest to you their honest and sincere conviction, that during your administration you have conducted its affairs with the noble view of restoring the Government to pure Constitutional principles, and with unceasing care and an unerring eye to the public good, beg (through us, a Committee appointed for that purpose,) your acceptance of the jaunting *Phaeton* herewith presented.

The Committee are sensible that their present poſseſses no other value, than that of having been made out of the timber which originally formed part of the United States frigate *Constitution*,

a

20417

= a ship which more than any other in our navy, has contributed by her gallant victories in the late war, to impart lustre to the American name and Character; and it appeared fitting that this remnant of the noble ship which had so often borne in triumph the flag of our Country, should be appropriated to the service of the distinguished individual who in war gloriously asserted, and in peace has firmly maintained and defended the rights of the Nation to which she belonged.

On behalf of our constituents, as well as of ourselves, we tender you the assurance of our high respect for your person, and of gratitude for your services.

Your friends and fellow Citizens.

Signed by, C. W. Lawrence
E. T. Throop
Preserved Fish
Gideon Lee
Daniel Jackson
Charles Graham
Henry Yates
Isaac Varian
Wm. M. Price
Reuben Withers
Jonª. I. Coddington
John Wilson
Prosper M. Wetmore
John R. Livingston Jr
Daniel B. Tallmadge
M. M. Quackenbos
George Sharpe

W. Coventry H. Waddell
Jonas Conkling
W. P. Hallett
Wm. Holland
Charles W. Sandford
James B. Murray
Henry Ogden
Alexander G. Anderson
Thomas W. Wells
James C. Smith
W. Horace Brown
James C. Brown
Richard Pennell, M.D.
Jona. D. Stevenson
Burr Wakeman
David Crocker
Jona. Trotter (of Brooklyn)
James B. Clarke
George D. Strong
Jno. L. Graham
John V. Greenfield
Henry Wyckoff
Charles Butler
Joshua Phillips
Saml Swartwout
James Campbell
Richard Riker
James Conner
Isaac Townsend
J. R. Whiting

Wm. Kain
E. D. Comstock
S. C. Stambaugh (of Penna.)

20418

Janry 8th 1837

Dear Andrew

I owe you an apology for not having answered your letter upon its receipt. It reached me when we were all overwhelmed with grief for the situation of sister Emily &c, I deffered it from day to day until cousin Andrews return & then He said to me that He thought I might effect a communication from you in a short time on the subject of the letter of Doct Hadly which I entrusted to your care &c. This together with other reasons prevented my writing you at an earlier period, for which you must excuse me, as I particularly attended to all your request made in your letter to me - Your overseer I think is getting on very well. You have no doubt been advised by your Brother Thomas about your business here.

20419

your crop last year both of corn
& cotton has turned out to be very good.
Seventy Bales of cotton have been shipped
and 10 or 12 more ready to ship which
will make your crop about 82 or 3 bales
your stock are all in good living
order & doing well notwithstanding the
severe winter we have had which has
been unusual — I am sure Halliday
will attend faithfully to your business
& will manage with skill & industrious
ly all that he has charge of and
will particularly attend to every in-
struction you may give him &c —
I furnished him with 42 Hogs which
at a low estimate we agreed would
average 100 — I agreed to let him
have them at that though I thought
they would average it — He does not
wish to finish killing his Pork until about the
middle of February - by managing in
that way He thinks there will be
meat enough without purchasing
any more —

I see by the papers there is a probability of another bitter session of congress— what will those unprincipled & unfeeling wretches not do— They have no respect for themselves nor any one else— The country can certainly not long endure them.

There can be but one sentiment in relation to the unprincipled attack made on the President & the administration this session & that one of Indignation—

I would like to know if you ever ~~became~~ acquainted with Dr Williams about whom I see so much in the papers & what you think of him is He an Impostor— You would Have a good oportunity of forming a correct judgement about Him— I would like to know whether you Have ever submitted Hadys letter to Him or to Dr Phisic & what was the result of either or both their opinions

I must conclude, I have no news worth relating— I will cheerfully attend to any business you wish to have transacted at Home— Give my kindest regards to unc Jackson & To cousin Sarah & family &

believe me sincerely and affectionately

Your friend

Stockly Donelson

Mr Andrew Jackson jr

Private secretary of

President Jackson

Washington City

WASHINGTON, 11th Jany — 1837 —

No.

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to James Cuthbert ———— *or Bearer,*

one hundred ———— *Dollars* $\frac{}{100}$

$100 ———

Andrew Jackson

20422

Washington, Jany 14th 1837

Dr. Sir; The enclosed line from S. Z. Atlee Esqr. explains itself. He is your friend & a respectable man. To gratify his request would oblige him very much; & it will afford me pleasure to convey your reply.

Very Respectfully
yr friend
& obt Servt
Th. L. Hamer

His Excellency
A. Jackson

20423

His Excellency
Andrew Jackson
Washington City
D.C.

Honble.
Hamer of ohio
enclosing a letter
from Mr. Lyttle-
an honest good man,
wants the Presidents
autograph
[illegible]
complied with
A. J.

from
T. L. H.

Jan 14th 1837

Extract of a letter from the Duke of Saxe Weimar to Mr. Davezac, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States at the Hague, dated Boxstel, near Bois-le-Duc, January 14th., 1837.

"The newspapers inform us that Mr. Van Buren will hereafter be at the head of your Government, from which we are encouraged to presume that the just and energetic system pursued by your venerable President will continue to govern you."

20425

YEAS.		NAYS.
—	Allen	
	Archer	—
—	Atchison	
—	Atherton	
—	Bagby	
—	Barrow	
	Bates	—
	Bayard	—
—	Benton	
	Berrien	—
—	Breese	
—	Buchanan	
	Choate	—
	Clayton	—
—	Colquitt	
	~~Crittenden~~	
	Dayton	—
	Evans	—
—	Fairfield	
—	Foster	
—	Francis	
—	Fulton	
—	Hannegan	
—	Haywood	
—	Henderson	
—	Huger	
	Huntington	—
—	Jarnagin	
—	King	
—	McDuffie	
—	Mangum	
	Merrick	—
	Miller	—
	~~Morehead~~	
	~~Niles~~	
	Pearce	—
	Phelps	—
	~~Porter, of La.~~	
	~~Porter, of Mich~~	
—	Rives	
—	Semple	

—	**Mangum**	
	Merrick	—
	Miller	—
	~~**Morehead**~~	
	~~**Niles**~~	
	Pearce	—
	Phelps	—
	~~**Porter, of La.**~~	
	~~**Porter, of Mich**~~	
—	**Rives**	
—	**Semple**	
—	**Sevier**	
	Simmons	—
	~~**Sprague**~~	
—	**Sturgeon**	
—	**Tallmadge**	
—	**Tappan**	
	Upham	—
—	**Walker**	
	~~**White**~~	
	Woodbridge	—
—	**Woodbury**	
—	**Wright**	
30		16

[1837] Jan 16

Vote on Expunging

[16 Jan 1837]

Senators that Expunged the Journal of the Senate

Messrs. Benton.
„ Brown.
„ Buchanan,
„ Dana,
„ Ewing, of Illinois.
„ Fulton.
„ Grundy,
„ Hubbard,
„ King, of Ala.
„ Linn.
„ Morris,
„ Nicholas,
„ Niles,
„ Page,
„ Rives,
„ Robinson,
„ Ruggles,
„ Sevier,
„ Strange,
„ Tallmadge,
„ Tipton,
„ Walker
„ Wall,
„ Wright.

Espenguis Samutõs

Mr Andrew Jackson Jr

1836 — To Bradley & Catlett

Jany 1 — To amt of acct $ 17.85

Recd payment

Bradley & Catlett

Jany 17 1837

Messrs Bradley & Catlett are willing to swear to the acct, & do not wish any further unnecessary trouble about it, this is the last time their collector will call —

Jany 16 — 37

20477

593

A. Jackson
1788

Assembly Chamber

Albany Jany 16th 1837.

Respected Sir.

At the request of many republican members of this House and of the Senate of this State, — men who have been long and constantly your friends, who have approved the measures of your administration and have zealously supported them, I take the liberty to say that they would be highly gratified, should it be convenient to you and comport with your views of propriety, if you would add another to the many obligations which you have conferred on your fellow citizens, by the bold and independent course which you have pursued during your administration, to perpetuate the union of the States, — to preserve the purity of the U.S. constitution, — to promote its objects, — to sustain the legitimate sovereignty of the States respectively, and to defend the great and primary principle and true ~~[illegible]~~ object of all free governments, the equal rights and liberties of their constituents.

It is earnestly hoped also by many other of your fellow citizens, that you will immediately before or at the close of your administration, leave, in a valedictory addreſs, as a legacy to your country, your patriarchal counsel in regard to the means and measures best calculated to to sustain, further, effect and secure the great objects above ~~[illegible]~~ re=

20430

referred to; and particularly your views of the venal influence of incorporated Banks on the free political institutions of our country; and also the tendency of all incorporated monied associations, to impair the rights, liberties and happiness of your fellow citizens. By conceding the favor requested, you will confer, not only on the people of the United States, but, in truth, on all mankind, a kindness for which you will merit and receive the sincere thanks and enduring gratitude of

That you may enjoy long life, perfect health
and uninterrupted happiness is the unfeigned
wish of

your respectful and
esteeming fellow citizen

of the New York delegation

Genl. Jackson
President of the
United States-

The Honble
Mr. Hertell N.Y.
friendly to be
presented A. J.

Genl. Jackson
President of the United States
Washington
D.C.

Near Tuskegee 17th Jany
1837

Dear General, I was greatly distressed
to hear of your illness and much
rejoiced to learn that you were
recovering from your attack.
I pray to God that
your setting Sun may be as mild
and peaceful as its meridian
was brilliant. You will perceive
from the public papers, that Biddle the Govr
has purchased out one of and has
given Banks stock — which and has
rele and is about establishing branches
the agents the State — with this
[illegible], Mr Biddle will be
able, as he intended when he made
the trade, to operate in the great power
upon [illegible]. [illegible] you have
[illegible] a stones these few the
[illegible] [illegible] Nothing [illegible]

20432

was more cunningly devised or more secretly executed than this bargain. The charter of the Bank that has been purchased, I understand is *perpetual*: with authority to establish as many branches as the Directory may think proper. Public sentiment in Georgia is violently opposed to this measure. But, I have little confidence in any political sentiment after the passage of the Bankrupt Bill & establishing the Bank of the U States in democratic Pennsylvania.

The prospects of our Van Buren at this moment are gratifying. But, the opposition will treat him as they have you & they will persecute him by millions of lies. Still I think that he is a cool man of great sagacity. His real friends will be able to keep the closer as the storm is increasing in fury. Mr Van Buren is exceedingly strong in Alabama. Judge White as we say in Ten is a dead cock in the pit here.

I had for twelve years promised myself the great pleasure of hearing Mr Van Buren deliver his inaugural speech. But, my duties here will preclude me from being at Washington on the 4th of March, as we cannot close our affairs here before the 1st. We are up to the eyes in frauds perpetrated upon these miserable Indians. But, we shall be able to reach the bottom of them.

I pray Heaven that you may be restored in greatly improved health to the bosom of your family and your beloved retirement at the Hermitage — that spot where you have enjoyed in days gone by so much happiness.

Very truly & ever
yours
Alfred Balch.

20483

Genl A. Jackson.

Tuskeege Ala
Aug 17

Free

Genl

A. Jackson
President U. States,
Washington City.

1837
Mr. A. Burch
of Nashville
now at
Tuskeege Ala.

20434

Andrew Jackson,

President of the United States of America,

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting: Jan 17th 1837

Know Ye; That in pursuance of the Law of Congress, paſsed the tenth day of April, 1816, entitled, "An Act to incorporate the Subscribers to the Bank of the United States"; and reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Integrity, Diligence and Discretion of James Rogers, Have nominated and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him a Director in the Bank of the United States and do authorize and empower him to execute and fulfil the duties of that Office according to Law and to Have and to Hold the said Office, with all the rights and emoluments thereunto legally appertaining, until the end and expiration of the first Monday in the Month of January, 1838, unless the President of the United States for the time being should be pleased sooner to revoke and determine this Commission.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to be made and determine this Commission.

In Testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to be made patent and the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the 17,th day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirtyseven and of the Independence of the United States of America the sixtyfirst.

Andrew Jackson

By the President.

Jno Forsyth Secretary of State.

(Copy)

Washington city January 17th 1837

My Dear Col,

Your interesting note of this morning, by your dear little son, inclosing "the Pen used by the Secretary of the Senate in "Expunging from the journal of the Senate "the odious sentence which a few politicians and "their confederates - the Bank of the United States, "caused to be entered up against me, and which "the voice of millions of freemen has ordered to "be expunged," was duly received - but business prevented my acknowledging it sooner. -

I thank you sincerely for this precious present - for this act of justice of which it was the instrument. My most grateful feelings are due to the Senate, and particularly to you for your disinterested and able defence of the Executive from the groundless charge "of violating the Constitution and the Laws" contained in the expunged resolution - yes I sincerely thank you for this precious

Pen which has been used in carrying into effect the just sentence of the Senate, which has healed the wound, given by the resolution it was employed to expunge; and as this pen has been only used in this righteous act, so it shall be preserved with many other precious relics for further use - carefully kept by me during life, and shall by my last will and testament be bequeathed to you as its rightful heir - not only as its rightful heir - but as an evidence of my high regard, and exalted opinion of your talents - virtue and Patriotism. -

For these exertions in the cause of innocence and justice I again thank you, and with my blessing on the dear little boy - the bearer of your present - remain with grateful feelings &c

your friend

Signed Andrew Jackson

To

Col Thomas H Benton
Senator in Congress

Copy of a
Letter to Col
Th. H Benton —
on the Expunged
Resolution of the Senate
also in acknowledg=
=ment of the Pen used
on the occasion

Enclosed within
Col Bentons Letter
with the Pen &c

To
be carefully kept

WASHINGTON, January 17th 1837.

No.

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to James Cutberth or Bearer,

One hundred Dollars $\frac{}{100}$

Andrew Jackson

$100

20438

In the House of Representatives, Jan. 19, 1837.

Whereas, the term of service of General Andrew Jackson, President of the United States, will expire on the fourth day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven; and whereas, the administration of the general government, under the direction and guidance of the President aforesaid, has met, and still does meet the entire approbation and hearty co-operation of a large majority of the people of the United States, and particularly the citizens of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And whereas they have hailed, and still do hail with feelings of gratitude and unalterable affection, the ***Hero and Statesman*** who has nobly and fearlessly defended his country and its liberties in the field and in the cabinet, through a stormy, perilous and eventful life, from **BOYHOOD** to **OLD AGE.** And whereas, an irregular and unconstitutional attack was made on the reputation of the people's choice, the President aforesaid, in the Senate of the United States, on the twenty-eighth day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four; and whereas the public acts and reputation of the patriotic executive of this republic, sustained by the people, are the acts and reputation of the people themselves: and whereas it is the wish, desire and determination of a large majority of the people of this commonwealth that, the name, fame, character and conduct of their veteran President, shall go down to posterity untarnished and unsullied. Therefore,

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, That the passage of the resolution by the Senate of the United States, censuring the President of the United States, for a removal of the deposites, was unwise, inexpedient, unconstitutional and unjust, and that the expurgation from the Journal of the Senate of the aforesaid resolution, is in the opinion of this House, a most salutary and constitutional redress for an unconstitutional attack on the character of the President of the United States, and that the Speaker of the House of Representatives be, and he is hereby directed to forward a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution to the President of the United States, and also one copy to each of the Senators from the state of Pennsylvania, in the Senate of the said United States.

Extract from the Journal
Fr. R. Shunk Clk

20438-a

Resolutions by
Pa. House of Repre
sentatives approving
Expunging Act
1837

at home
Jany 26th 1837

My dear Uncle

Your three letters of the 1. 2 & 3d of this month, the last in answer to mine informing you of the death of my dear wife, reached me by the same mail two days ago. The tenderness and affection with which you write to me on this trying and melancholy occasion are calculated to mitigate its force and inspire the hope that it may not leave me without energy to take care of my children. Sensible of the irreparable loss they have sustained, they all appear to feel the necessity of shaping their conduct to meet the difficulties which are the consequence of it. Jackson is quite

20439

studious, and Mary to my surprise, I found, on my return home, to be fully as advanced in her reading and writing as she could have been if sent to school. John and little Rachel continue to grow finely, tho' the latter is still annoyed by the breaking out on the back which I mentioned in one of my other letters. None of them have forgotten their little cousins with you and all unite with me in sending their love to you & them, & to cousin Andrew & Sarah.

The weather has so far moderated as to produce a thaw, which will enable us to do something toward the preparation for a new crop. I am however so much retarded by the work yet to do on my gin and other indispensable buildings that I shall be much behind you in getting ready to plant. I have got 8 or 10 thousand lb of cotton to pick

Col. Love and myself put in a bid for the road through our land at the rate of $4500 the mile. I am informed that it has not been accepted but that the directors will let it to us at the rate of $4250, if we will take a mile apiece. Mr. Hallum the agent for the purpose informs me that from Scotts branch to the corner of the field you bought of Thomas Donelson is two miles, and he suggests the propriety of your taking it from a point near the church to that corner. I have concluded to try the mile towards Scotts rather than be plagued by other workmen: and if Col. Love should feel authorised I shall advise him to subscribe for you.

I shall write you again in a few days. In respect to the portrait of my dear wife, which

you inform me is packed up with others you design
sending out, I would remark that I prefer not
to risk it to the chances of a consignment either
by water or land to Nashville. If I can so
arrange my business as to be able to leave home
in the spring I can bring it with me, and also
the two boxes which I left behind.

With my kind regards to Andrew & Sarah
& the Col. Earle, I offer you again my fervent prayers
for the improvement of your health, and for your happy
return to the Hermitage.

Yr grateful & affectionate nephew

Genl Andrew Jackson } A J Donelson

You inform me is packed up with others you design sending out, I would remark that I prefer not to risk it to the chances of a consignment either by water or land to Nashville. If I can so arrange my business as to be able to leave home in the spring I can bring it with me, and also the two boxes which I left behind.

With my kind regards to Andrew & Sarah & to Col. Earle, I offer you again my fervent prayers for the improvement of your health, and for your happy return to the Hermitage.

Y. grateful & affectionate nephew

Genl Andrew Jackson } A J Donelson

Mount Hope 20 January 1837

Dear Major

I met yesterday with Mr. Joseph W Clay and agreed on the part of the President to take a Mile of the Turnpike through his land at 4251 dollars per Mile a small portion of the Mile 4 acres in the Ward field that is quite level and he would not labour a small fraction of the Mile on lot

I would much rather have gotten the 45 or hundred but ~~you~~ the President will be able to make money out of it and still make nearly as much Crop, small and old hands will be able to break the stone

I would advise you to do the same but of that you will be the best judge It will be taken by others if you do not at the same price

I am Dear Sir
Yr Most obt
Ch J Love

2044

20442

21
T.

6

Majr. Andrew J. Donaldson
Near the Fountain
of Health

No. Washington, January 21th 1837

Bank of the Metropolis,

PAY to James Cutbert Esqr or Bearer,

One hundred Dollars $\frac{\ }{100}$

$100

Andrew Jackson

20443

XXII.

The President with his respects to A. Kendall, Esq., Postmaster Gen'l, requests to see him when his health will permit. The President has casually heard that the Committee to which was referred the Memorial of Stockton & Stokes, has made a report favorable to the memorialists; before you take any further action in this matter the President wishes to have an inview [interview] with you on this subject.

January 22nd, 1837.

XXIII.

MONDAY January 23nd, 1837.

MY DEAR SIR: I enclose you the paper I spoke to you about yesterday. I request you to examine it with care, and please to make such notes upon it as your consideration may suggest; if additions please mark where; and as soon as your health & leisure will permit you to examine the paper & note your observations, please return it to me. I have some alterations by addition, to make to it, but forbear until I hear from you. My son will hand you this.

Yr friend
ANDREW JACKSON.

A. KENDALL ESQ P M Genl

XXIV.

[A. Jackson, jr., to A. Kendall.]

JANY 23rd, 1837.

Mr Kendall

DR SIR—I am requested by the President to enclose you a resolution of the Senate in relation to the claims of Stockton & Stokes, and to say from Judge Grundy that it was not the intention of the committee to cast the least reflection or odium upon the Postmaster General; and as it now stands I think you are freed from all the responsibility in the case; therefore I congratulate you & will add I believe it would give pleasure to us here to hear of it being settled &c

Respectfully, yr friend &c
A JACKSON JR

In Select Committee of the House to inquire
into the Executive Departments &c.

20444

January 23^{d} 1837.

The following Resolutions were adopted and the Chairman directed to furnish the President of the United States, with a copy of the same:

Resolved, that the President of the United States be
requested, and the Heads of the several Executive Depart-
ments be directed, to furnish this Committee with a
list or lists of all officers, or agents or deputies, who
have been appointed or employed and paid, since the
4th of March 1829, to the first of December last, if any,
without authority of law, or whose names are not contained
in the last printed Register of public officers, commonly
called the "Blue Book" by the President or either of the
said Heads of Department respectively, and without
nomination to, or the advice and consent of, the Senate
of the United States; showing the names of such officers,
agents or deputies; the sums paid to each; the services
20444 rendered, and by what authority appointed and paid,
and what reasons for such appointments.

* Resolved, that the various Executive Officers in
replying to the foregoing resolution, be requested at the
20444-5 same time to furnish a statement of the period

See second page following

at which any innovations not authorized by law, if such exist, had their origin; their causes and the necessity which has required their continuance.

20445

~~Attest~~

B. F. Hallett. Clerk.

20445

See second page following

To His Excellency
Genl. Jackson

Jan 22nd
1837

Sir

I hope my motive for presuming to address You, will induce you to pardon the liberty I take in doing so.

I have been for some years forming a collection of the letters & autographs of the most eminent & illustrious Characters of various Ages & Nations; particularly of those most distinguished for their Patriotism & National Services.

In this pursuit I have been very

successful – My collection is very extensive & interesting – amongst it are letters of Marvel, Chatham, Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Buonaparte, Bolivar, Mina, besides many of Poets, Heroes, Statesmen, Artists &c &c. I am exceedingly anxious to add a Letter or Note of your Excellency to my collection – My object in writing to you is to solicit the favour of your enabling me to do so. If you will condescend merely to say that you have received my Application & comply with my request, it will confer a great obligation on me. Wishing that you may speedily recover from your present Illness, & that you may be spared many Years to benefit your Country by your Counsel & Advice, is the earnest wish of the writer. I have the honour to subscribe myself

Your Excellency's
Most obedt. humble Servant
William Johnston

13 Soho Street
Liverpool
23 January 1837

20449

In Select Committee of the House to inquire
into the Executive Departments
Jan 23d 1837.

The following Resolutions as amended, were adopted, and a copy of the same directed to be sent by the Chairman to each of the Heads of Departments.

1st Resolved that the Heads of the several Departments be directed to furnish this Committee with a statement showing the sums of money paid within the year ending on the first of December last, by such Departments respectively, their agents or deputies, without authority of law if any, to printers or editors of newspapers; specifying the names and residence of such printers and editors, and also the names and places of publication of the newspapers owned or published by them; and showing the services and consideration for which such sums have been paid, giving each item as stated in the accounts of such printer or editor, and the reasons for making such payments.

2d. Resolved that the President of the United States be requested, and the Heads of the several Executive Departments be directed to furnish this Committee with a list or lists of all officers or agents or deputies, who have been appointed or employed and paid, since the 4th of March 1829 to the first of December last, if any, without authority of law, or whose names are not contained in the last printed Register of public officers commonly called the Blue Book — by the President or either of the said Heads of Department respectively, and without nomination to, or the advice and consent of the United States, showing the names of such officers, agents or deputies, the sums paid to each, the services rendered and by what authority appointed and paid, and what reasons for such appointments.

10448

3d Resolved that the Heads of the several Departments be required to furnish this Committee with a statement showing the various amounts of money paid within the last four years, ending on the first of December last, for contingencies, whether appropriated or not by law, to whom and for what paid; showing whether any and if any, what appropriations have been changed from specific to other objects of expenditure than those for which they were made, and how such change was authorized or effected; and showing the amount of illegal or irregular expenditures, allowances or payments of every description whatever, if any, made by said Departments respectively, since the 4th day of March 1829 to the first of December 1836, and whether paid by Treasury warrant or Draft or otherwise, to whom and for what paid and the authority and reasons for such expenditures.

4th. Resolved that the Heads of the several Departments be directed to furnish this Committee with a list of all officers, agents or deputies, who have, since the 4th of March 1829 to the first of December last, within the Departments respectively, received salaries, pay or emolument of any kind, without rendering service to the government; who have received salaries, pay or emolument of any kind without being in office; whose commissions have been ante-dated; who held other stations or appointments State or federal, when receiving pay for particular offices or agencies or who have been engaged in private employment, and what, whilst receiving pay from and rendering no service to the government of the United States, with the names of such officers or agents or deputies, the sums or salaries paid to each, and the time of service of each respectively.

5th Resolved that the various Executive Officers in replying to the foregoing resolutions, be requested at the same time, to furnish a statement of the period at which any innovations not authorized by law, if such exist, had their origin; their causes and the necessity which has required their continuanc

6th. Resolved that the Secretary of the Navy be directed to furnish this Committee with the report, or copy of the report of John P. Van Ness and Amos Kendall, Commissioners appointed by authority of the President of the United States, to receive and report such testimony as might be offered touching certain charges preferred by Mr Hanson Gassaway relative to the condemnation and delivery to him of sundry pieces of ordnance at Washington Arsenal, and certain other charges connected with sundry contracts and other matters connected with the office of the Navy Commissioners, which Commissioners sat during the year 1833.

A true Copy from the Journal.

~~Attest~~. B. F. Hallett Clerk.

20449

City of Pittsburgh
January 24th 1837.

Honorable Sir:— Believing you to be a friend to all institutions of a good tendency, the undersign= have taken the liberty of addressing a few lines to you, trusting that you ~~will not~~ will not discourage, but may en-courage the advancement of a Society now in operation in this city under the title of "The Jacksonian— Debating Society ~~Sy~~ of Pittsburgh." This society has been in operation about one year (since last January) and has every prospect of becoming an ornament to Pittsburgh, and very useful in the instruction and improvement of the members belonging to it. Bearing, as it does, the name of a man who has ~~ex~~ distinguished ~~[illegible]~~ himself in his country's service, and who has nobly used his exertions to wipe out every foul stain upon his Country's honor, as you have, sir, it cannot languish for want of sufficient encouragement.

The Society wish, Sir, to obtain a letter of your own hand-writing for the purpose of framing, and preservation, and they are sure, Sir, you will not deny them this request, about departing, as you are, from the ~~first~~ highest office in the gift of a free People, the Society hope and trust that your station will be filled by an individual, who will

20400

follow your example, in acceding to the wishes of the People.

Whatever donation you may be pleased to transmit will be thankfully received and gratefully remembered by your obedient servants, and well-wishers.

Danl. A. Greene,
President.

Wm Thompson,
Secretary.

Robert McClenhan,
Treasurer.

Joseph Wright,
Wm Whiggam,
John Smith,
W^m H Hanford,
Thomas Stockton
Samuel Stone
John Shepherd,
Ale^x Stephenson
Alfred Collins Emory
18th 37
And Others

Members.

P.S.— Please direct your letter, "Dan'l. A. Greene.
Pittsburgh,
Pa."

Excellency Andrew Jackson
President U.S. } By the Members.
Washington City, D.C.

20451

from a Sc[illegible]
Catt. Jackson
in Pittsburg - Pa
wants a donation
and a few lines from
the President

Mail

His Excellency
Andrew Jackson,

Washington City

D. C.

Exmo. Sr. Presidente D. Andrés Jackson.

Washington Enero 24 de 1837.

Muy apreciable Señor mio:

La estacion de Nortes, y sobre todo los muchos Corsarios que actualmente abundan por los puertos dela Republica Mexicana hacen arriesgada la navegacion hasta Veracruz, para donde tengo que dirigirme al regresar á mi patria: en tal concepto me tomo la libertad de solicitar de V. me proporcione un buque de guerra q. pueda conducirme con toda seguridad.

Si tiene V. á bien librar sus ordenes al efecto, he de merecerle tambien que sea sin perdida de tiempo, pues el Viernes 27 del corriente, he de salir para Baltimore, y de allí á Norfolk en cuyo puerto quiero embarcarme.

20452

Dispense V. esta molestia y mande á
su mas atento y seguro Servidor

Q. B. S. M.

A. L. de Sta. Anna

Washington Jany 24th 1837.

Andrew Jackson, President of the United States.

Sir -

I am ordered by the Select Committee of the House of Representatives, appointed to inquire into the condition of the various Executive Departments &c, to communicate to you the inclosed resolution.

Respectfully &c

Henry A. Wise, Chairman

20454

[illegible]
[illegible]
the [illegible]
24th of January [illegible]
o'clock P. M. I
[illegible] the
25th & sent by my
son to [illegible]
the committee
when formed in
[illegible] — A. J. —

This to be carefully
preserved as a [illegible]
of [illegible]
the [illegible] and
[illegible]
and the first attempt
[illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

A. [illegible]

20455

His Excellency Andrew Jackson Dr

To James B Longacre

Jany 26th 1837	To 3 Vol of National Portrait Gallery	$15.00

Recd Payment
Benjn Hill
For Jas B Longacre

20456

Rec

(Copy)

Washington city January 26th 1837

Sir,

I received on the evening of the 24th inst. your letter covering a copy of certain resolutions purporting to have been adopted by a committee of the House of Representatives, of which you are Chairman, and request that you will lay before that committee this my reply which I hasten to make.

It appears by the published proceedings of the House of Representatives, that the Committee of which you are Chairman was appointed on your motion. The resolution offered by you and finally adopted by the House raised a direct issue with that part of my annual message in which I held the following language; "Before concluding this paper, I think it due "to the various Executive Departments to bear "testimony of their prosperous condition and to the "ability and integrity with which they have been "conducted. It has been my aim to enforce in all "of them a vigilant and faithful discharge of the "public business, and it is gratifying to me to believe "that there is no just cause of complaint from "any quarter, at the manner in which they have "fulfilled the object of their creation." Your resolution is in the following words. "Resolved

"Resolved, That so much of the President's Message as relates to the "condition of the various Executive Departments, the ability and integrity with which they have been conducted, the vigilant and faithful discharge of the public business in all of them, and the causes of complaint, from any quarter, at the manner in which they have fulfilled the objects of their creation," be referred to a select Committee, to consist of nine members, with power to send for persons and papers, and with instructions to inquire into the condition of the various Executive Departments, the ability and integrity with which they have been conducted, into the manner in which the public business has been discharged in all of them, and into all causes of complaint, from any quarter, at the manner in which said departments, or their bureaus or offices, or any of their officers or agents of every description whatever, directly or indirectly connected with them in any manner, officially or unofficially, in duties pertaining to the public interest, have fulfilled or failed to accomplish the objects of their creation, or have violated their duties or have injured and impaired the public service and interest; and that said Committee, in its inquiries, may refer to such periods of time as to them may seem expedient and proper." It also appears from the published proceedings of the House, that this resolution was accompanied and supported by a speech of

considerable

considerable length, in which you preferred many severe but vague charges of corruption and abuse in the Executive Departments. The resolutions adopted by the Committee, as well as that adopted by the House itself, must be taken in connexion with your introductory speech which gives a character to the whole proceeding. When thus regarded, it is obvious, that by the resolution of the House an issue is made with the President of the united States, as he had alleged, in his annual message that the Heads of the Executive Departments had performed their official duties with ability and integrity; In your speech you denied this; you charged them with manifold corruptions, and abuses of trust as you had done in former speeches to which you referred; and you demanded an investigation through the medium of a Committee. Certain other members of Congress, as appears by the published debates, united with you in these accusations, and for the purpose of ascertaining their truth or falsehood, the Committee you demanded was ordered to be raised, and you were placed at its head. The first proceeding of the investigating Committee is to pass a series of resolutions, which though amended in their passage, were as under=stood introduced by you, calling on the President and the Heads of the Departments, not to answer to any specific charge; not to explain any alleged

alleged abuse; not to give information as to any particular transaction; but assuming that they have been guilty of the Charges alleged, calls upon them to furnish evidence against themselves!

After the reiterated charges you have made, it was to have been expected, that you would have been prepared to reduce them to specifications; and that the Committee would then proceed to investigate the matters alleged. – But instead of this, you resort to generalities even more vague than your original accusations, and in open violation of the constitution and of that well established and wise maxim "that all men are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty according to the established rules of Law," you request myself and the Heads of the Departments to become our own accusers, and to furnish the evidence to convict ourselves. – And this call purports to be founded on the authority of that body, in which alone by the constitution the power of impeaching us is vested! The Heads of Departments may answer such a request as they please, provided they do not withdraw their own time and that of the officers under their direction from the public business, to the injury thereof. – To that business, I shall direct them to devote themselves, in preference to any illegal and unconstitutional calls for information,

no matter

no matter from what source it may come, or however anxious they may be to meet it. For myself, I shall repel all such attempts as an invasion of the principles of justice, as well as of the constitution, and I shall esteem it my sacred duty to the people of the united States, to resist them as I would the establishment of a Spanish inquisition.

If after all the severe accusations # you are unwilling of your own accord to bring specific charges, then I request your Committee to call yourself and your associates and every other member of Congress who has made the general charge of corruption, to testify before God and our Country whether you or they know of any specific corruption or abuse of trust in the Executive Departments; and if so what it is. If you are able to point to any case where there is the slightest reason to suspect corruption or abuse of trust, no obstacle which I can remove, shall be interposed to prevent the fullest scrutiny by all legal means. The offices of all the Departments will be opened to you, and every proper facility furnished for this purpose.

I hope sir, we shall at last have your charges, and that you will proceed to investigate them, not like an inquisitor but in the accustomed mode. If you either will not make specific accusations, or if when made, you attempt to establish them by making freemen

contained in the various speeches of yourself and your associates,

freemen their own accusers, you will not expect me to countenance your proceedings. — In the short period which remains of my official duty, I shall endeavour, as I have heretofore endeavoured, to fulfill the obligations of that oath of office, by which I engaged, "to the best of my ability, to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States;" and for this and other reasons of the most solemn character, I shall, on the one hand, cause every possible facility consistent with Law and justice, to be given to the investigation of specific, tangible charges, and on the other, shall repudiate all attempts to invade the just rights of the Executive Departments and of the individuals composing the same. — If after all your clamor, you will make no specific charges, or bring no proof of such as shall be made, you and your associates must be regarded by the good people of the United States as the authors of unfounded calumnies; and the public servants whom you have assailed, will in the estimation of all honorable men, stand fully acquitted. —

In the mean time I cannot but express my astonishment, that members of Congress should call for information as to the names of persons to whom contingent moneys are paid, and the objects of those payments, when there are six standing Committees under the

seventy

Seventy seventh rule of the House of Representatives, whose special duties are, to examine annually into all the details of these expenditures in each of the Executive Departments. The like remark is applicable to some other branches of the information sought by you, ample details in respect to which are to be found in the reports laid before Congress and now on your files, and to which I recommend you to have recourse. —

I am respectfully &c

Signed, Andrew Jackson

To the Honble

Henry. A Wise, chairman of
the investigating committee of the abuses and
corruptions charged against the
Executive Departments —

I certify that this is a true Copy
from the original sent.
Test A. Jackson Junr
Private Secretary
&c —

20460

Washington
January 26th 1837

Sir,

Late on the evening of the 24th ~~instant~~ I received ~~on last evening at 8 oclock P.M.~~ your letter, covering a copy of certain resolutions purporting to have been adopted by a committee of the House of Representatives, of which you are chairman, and request that you will lay before that committee this my reply which I hasten to make:)

~~As~~ You Sir, and your associates have ~~been~~ in your speeches as seen in congress in your places as members of ~~congress~~ and your electioneering ~~speeches~~ harangues last summer and autumn, filling the country with vague charges of corruption & abuse in the Executive Departments, and upon your motion a resolution was adopted raising a committee ~~[illegible]~~. It was ~~to that you~~ [illegible] ~~your associates~~. expected, that you if an honest man, called to that honorable station of representing forty five thousand freemen, if there was any sincerity in you ~~or your associates~~, you would have reduced your charges to specifications, and that the committee would then proceed to investigate the matters alleged. But instead of that you turn round ~~[illegible]~~ and by your resolutions require myself & the heads of Departments, in open violation of the constitution & that well established & wise maxim of law, "that all men are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty according to the established rules ~~[illegible]~~ of law," ~~[illegible]~~

20461

~~if guilty~~ to become ~~any~~ our own accusers, and
furnish on your statements as the evidence, ~~if any exists~~ to con=
=~~vict ourselves~~. [you must be truly ignorant
if you do not know that to support a single
case, if it did exist, under the principle clause
of your first resolution, or under your
second, would of itself be a plea of guilty;
for you only ask for things which have
been done "without authority of law".] Now
is it constitutional, just or decent to make
such a demand on any public officer, or
private citizen — particularly ~~of~~ your [illegible] upon the Presi=
=dent of the U. States whose duty it is, ~~and~~
enjoined by a solemn oath, to see that the
laws are faithfully executed ~~and [illegible] to all~~
your ~~[illegible]~~ insinuations of violations of law in the resolutions
~~sent me, I say that the Constitution I have~~
~~faithfully kept and discharge the~~
~~[illegible] them by the country.~~

The Heads of Departments will answer such
a call as they please, but I repel it as an outrage
and insult — an attempt to introduce into our
happy country, of laws, a Spanish inquisition.

~~If after all your [illegible] clamour you have made~~
if neither you, nor your associates, ~~[illegible]~~ have [illegible] to bring, request your
committee to put you and your associates
Mr Baily Peyton, Mr Bell, Mr Underwood &
Mr Pickens of the House, and Mr Calhoun
judge White, and Mr Ewing, of Ohio, of the
Senate upon oath to testify and say before
god and our country whether you know

~~Insinuations~~ charges as aforesaid

know of any abuse or corruption in the Exec=
=cutive Departments and where it is. if so, if
you can point out or specify nothing,
you will prove yourself and your associates
false accusers and be held by the honest
people of these United States, as such ~~[illegible]~~
~~calumniators~~, and those whom you and your
associates have traduced will stand acquitted. But
if you are able to specify any thing and point
to any case where there is the slightest suspicion
of abuse or corruption, no obstacle which I can
remove, shall be interposed, to prevent the
fullest investigation, by all legal & constitutional
means. ~~and the~~ offices of the Departments will be opened ~~for this purpose~~.
As yours is a committee to investigate
implied in the accusations made in the floor of the House [illegible] committee
~~criminal~~ "charges, ~~and~~ ~~[illegible]~~, these
charges should be specifically ~~made~~ before
~~they~~ a call upon me or the heads of Departments
is made ~~to answer~~ ~~any thing~~; and if no such charges be made,
you may direct the heads of Departments
to do this or do that, to enable you & your
associates to escape, under some pretence,
from the attitude of accusers, in which you
have placed yourself & associates, but I
shall direct them to proceed with their public
duties, and not waste their ~~[illegible]~~ valuable time
~~or that of their clerks~~ [illegible] [illegible] with by a Suspicion [illegible]
[illegible] documentary evidence to discover some supposed
[illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ abuse
or corruption ~~about them~~. In the reports made
to Congress you will find the names of all persons
to whom contingent monies are paid & the object

20462

of the payments, and there are six standing
committees under your seventy seventh
rule, whose special duties are it is to examine
into all the details of these expenditures.
If you see any thing like corruption in
these accounts or reports make a charge
and it will be freely met. The presumption
is that these committees have faithfully
done their duty, & then no abuse or corruption
is to be found in the Departments, unless
indeed you may suppose that these com=
=mittees are conniving at the abuses and
corruptions which you & your associates
in your speeches have charged, which I
suppose you would not dare to inti=
=mate— and I can assure & promise you when
make a specific charge, no obstacle shall be
thrown in your way or that of your associates,
to as full an investigation as you wish, if
you do not attempt, as you have already
done, to make freemen their own
accusers and witnesses against them=
=selves in positive violation of the constitution
and the laws of this land of freedom.

I hope sir, we shall at last have your charges
and that you will proceed to establish them,
not like an inquisitor, but in the usual
way as provided for in the constitution
& the laws of this free & happy country.
If you will make no charge after all your
tirades & clamour, or give no shadow
of proof, the good people of these —
united

united States will know you to be, what I believe you to be—a calumniator.

Respectfully &c

Andrew Jackson

The Honble
H. A. Wise chairman -

20463

20464

Rough draft
of a reply to the
resolutions of
wise' committee
altered on the
advice of Mr B.
rede, to save the
feelings of our
imprudent
friends. A. J.

WASHINGTON, Jany 26th 1837.

No.

BANK OF THE METROPOLIS,

Pay to Mr James B Longacre *or Bearer,*

Fifteen *Dollars* $\frac{}{100}$.

Andrew Jackson

$15

20465

To Andrew Jackson President of the United States

Sir

Jan 27th 1837

The undersigned, appointed at the late celebration of the Glorious 8th Jany: 1815, a committee for the purpose, respectfully and earnestly invite you to accept of a public dinner, to be given in Cincinnati in honour of your public services, as well as in testimony of the high respect in which your private character is held, at such early day after the 4th March next as may suit your convenience.

In tendering to you, Sir, this invitation, the undersigned feel that it should embrace something more than a simple notice and request. They would do injustice to the democracy of this region, which on this occasion they represent, were they to neglect reminding you that your visits hitherto have been always unexpected, and of such brief duration as to deprive numbers of your most ardent friends the pleasure of seeing you. The mass of the community, the honest democrats, who support the principles and approve the measures of your administration, with a few exceptions, have never yet had the opportunity of taking you by that hand with which you signed the Vetoes, the Proclamation, and the protest, with those other memorable documents which must serve as texts of reference on Constitutional law while [illegible]

20466

national constitution endures; and to point out to their sons the man who has saved his country in war, and preserved her liberties in peace; who stood true to her rights and interests when the many of those around him proved recreant to their trusts: and who now retires to private life in the enjoyment of the love, the respect and veneration of the mighty mass of the American people, to an extent greater than any other living man. The undersigned therefore hope, that it may comport with your engagements to afford to those they represent the happy opportunity of seeing you. To many of them it will be the first and perhaps to all the last time.

It would be a gratification to the Committee, to have it made known to them your acceptance of the invitation in season for giving due notice to your friends at a distance.

For themselves, Sir, the undersigned offer to you their best wishes, their profound respect; and they most ardently pray that the evening of your life may prove as happy as its meridian has been brilliant

And are your obedient Servants

E D Williams — Willm. Burke Chn. Committee
E. Jones — Moses Dawson Secretary
Patrick Considine — Thos. Henderson
John C Avery — Richd. Fosdick
William Wiswell — Nath. Allen

E. S. Haines
James Johnston
Charles Cist
William Conclin
John Myers
Wm. S. Hatch
Othniel Looker
Thos. Smith
Dan: T. Meader
Aquila Durham

William Hopson
Regin Riggan
John Riddle
Saml. Martin
Stephen Wood
Jas. Oury
Ezekiel Pollack
Jacob Fetter
Archd. Gordon
James Goodin

Cincinnati 27th January 1837

204.67

Invitation to Civi
Dinner) 16th Feby
1837 — ASp

My Dear Sir

I received your kind note with your invitation for me to dine with you on Thursday next at the moment when an argument was about to begin & I am now only a few minutes out of Court - I shall be but too happy, in being with you on such an occasion, & to offer you my warm congratulations on this proud & noble triumph, in which an indelible & enduring mark of reproach which faction endeavoured to fix upon you, has by the command of millions of freemen been stamped upon their own foreheads. - Most cordially congratulating you

I am most respectfully
& truly your friend

R. B. Taney

Jany 27. 1837

20468

20469

and gentlemen [illegible]
acceptance to dine
& his expression of
pleasure to be there
on the occasion to
be safely kept.
A. J.

1837-

President
of the U. States

To Andrew Jackson President of the United States

jan 28th 1837

Sir

The undersigned appointed at the late celebration of the glorious 8th Jany 1815 a committee for the purpose respectfully and earnestly invite you to accept of a public dinner to be given in Cincinnati in honour of your public services, as well as in testimony of the high respect in which your private character is held, at such early day after the 4th March last as may suit your convenience.

In tendering to you, Sir, this invitation the undersigned feel that it should embrace something more than a simple notice and request. They would do injustice to the democracy of the region which they represent on this occasion were they to neglect reminding that your visits heretofore have been always unexpected and of such brief duration as to deprive numbers of your most ardent friends the pleasure of seeing you. The mass of the community the honest democrats who support the principles and the measures of your administration with a few exceptions have never yet had the opportunity of taking you by that hand with which you signed the vetoes the Proclamation and the protest with those other memorable documents which must serve as texts of reference on Constitutional law whilst the national Constitution endures and to point out to their sons the man who has served his country in war and preserved her liberties in peace — the Hero twice

20470

to be upright and intimate when too many of those around him proved recreant to their trust — one who now retires to private life in the enjoyment of the love the respect and veneration of the mighty mass of the American people and to an extent greater than any other man alive — The undersigned therefore hope that it may comport with your engagements to afford to those which they represent the happy opportunity of seeing you; to many of it will be the first and perhaps to all the last time

It would be a gratification to the Comee. that your acceptance of the invitation would be made known to them in season for giving due notice to your friends at a distance —

For themselves Sir the undersigned offer you their best wishes, their profound respect — and they ardently pray that the evening of your life may prove as happy as its meridian has been brilliant —

And are your obdt. servants

James Johnston	William Burke, Ch. Com
Charles Cist	Moses Dawson, secy
Willm. Conclin	Thos. Henderson
John Myers	Rich. Fosdick
Wm. S. Hatch	Nath. Allen
Othniel Looker	E. D. Williams
Wm. Smith	O. Jones
Dan. F. Snader	Patrick Considine
Wm. Hopson Hassan	Jos. C. Avery
Rezin Reagin Resin Reagin	Will. T. Wiswell

John Riddle
Saml. Martin
Stephen Wood
James Curry
Ezekiel Pollock
Jacob Fetter
Archd. Gordon
Aquilla Durham
James Goodin
E. S. Haines

Cincinnati 18th January 1837

20471

The President of the United States

Washington City

No. Washington. 28th Jany 1837

Bank of the Metropolis,

Pay to Andrew Jackson Senr — or Bearer,

Twenty five —— Dollars $\frac{}{100}$

Andrew Jackson

$25

20473

No. Washington, January 28th 1837

Bank of the Metropolis,

PAY to James Cutbert —— or Bearer,

One hundred and fifty — Dollars, $\frac{}{100}$

Andrew Jackson

$150

20474

Lebanon 30th Jany 1837

Genl Jackson

You have often
Shewed me marks of friendship
by sending me Speeches and other
documents of information, for
which you will please accept
my most hearty thanks and at
the same time, the firmest assurance
of my sincere wish for your
health, and your safe return to
your delightfull Hermatage, and
that you may there spend your
last days as the most peacefull
days of the Hero - the Statesman
and the true philanthrophist

By the time you receive this
I will be living in the town of
Fayettsville Arkansas, where it will
give me great pleasure, to receive
from you such marks of friendship
and attention as you have thought
fit heretofore to favour me with
your long knowledge of me together
with my great attachment to you
both personally and politically
has often made me think of writing
you

20479

you but knowing that you
had two many useless correspondents
I shrink from the reflection, with
the full determination never myself
to trouble A Venerable friend whose
whole life is actively spent
for his countrys Good
And at the same time to be
assured, that any communication
that has been made by my friends
troubling you for any office
or official favor for me, was
done without my seeking. but
I have no doubt from the most
sincere friendship
my attachment personally to
you has been long and because
I think you ten thousand times more
than worthy of it
my political support and agreement
with you is because I think and
always found you right. for these
I ask nothing - Your friend D Campbell

you
spondents
with
vouchsafe
whose
ants
ble
ication
Laird
Affric
was
but
most
tly to
betaken
more
disappoint
and
otherwise
ampbell

20480-1

LEBANON
JAN
31
TEN

FREE

Genl Jackson
President U.S.
Washington City

[illegible] Moore
arkansas
David Campbell
to [illegible] him
[illegible]
[illegible]
A.J.

Washington, January 31st 1837

No.

Bank of the Metropolis,

PAY to — James Bell — or Bearer,

Two hundred and Ninety — Dollars, $\frac{}{100}$

Andrew Jackson

$290

20483

Bell

(Private)

Washington, January 30' 1837.

My dear General,

I have directed to be prepared, and laid before you, a particular statement of the questions between the United States and Austria and Pruſsia, arising under two Articles of the Treaties with those Governments, and earnestly solicit your attention to the merits of the Controversy, before the close of your Presidential Career. On a fair and careful examination of those questions, it appears to me, that the ground

taken

To
Gen. Andrew Jackson,
President of the United States.

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taken by us is unsound.— I am induced to ask your attention to this Subject, as well by a sense of duty, as by my personal and political interest in the honor of your Administration, and my anxiety that all your acts, as the Chief Magistrate of this Country, should bear the test of future Scrutiny, when neither affection nor prejudice shall be left to warp the judgment that may be formed upon them.—

The promise of the United States to Austria and Prussia, contained in the fifth Article of the Treaties with those Countries, is simple and distinct, that no higher duties shall

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shall be imposed upon any of their products, than upon like articles from any other foreign country.— The Treaty with France stipulates, that the duties upon the wines of that Country shall be lower than those upon the same article from other countries, Austria and Prussia included.— Austria and Prussia, relying upon the promise contained in the fifth Article above referred to, claim to have their wines placed upon the same footing with those of France.— Their application is denied by the United States, upon the ground, that the fifth Article of the Treaties with those Countries is modified by the ninth, which stipulates for the mutual Concession,

upon

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upon similar conditions, of favors which are granted to other nations.- This position, that the ninth Article is a modification and not an enlargement of the obligation of the fifth, is both unsound and impolitic, and amounts in effect to a declaration, that the fifth Article is only obligatory so long as neither party can make any thing by disregarding it, in contracts with other powers.-

The promise to Austria and Prussia, and that to France, were and are inconsistent.- The instructions from the Department of State to our Minister at Paris warn him not to forget the engagements of the United States

States to other nations. – Mr. Rives, aware of the inconsistency, suggested a ground for obviating the difficulty, which not being considered tenable, Mr. Livingston resorted to the construction put upon the Articles of the Treaties with Austria and Prussia. –

If you should, after examination, decide that an error has been committed requiring correction, I would respectfully suggest that the correction may be made, not only without discredit to our Government, but with advantage to the character of the Country. – Austria and Prussia, though not satisfied with the decision made, have ceased to urge their pretensions,

not

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not because of any doubt on their part of the justice of their claims, but because the interest of neither in the immediate subject of dispute is sufficiently great, to induce them to make a serious difficulty with us about it.—

A frank and graceful acknowledgment of our doubts as to the soundness of our construction, and an admission that our Treaty with France containing important objects must be fulfilled, will authorise our asking, and I am confident will secure to us, for a trifling equivalent, if any should be required, the consent of both Austria and Prussia to the temporary exception in favor of France.— This equivalent might

be

be either immediate or prospective, as should be found most Convenient on all sides.— Your directions might be given to have the effort made with both, or if you think there is not time, an endorsement on the Report, recommending the Subject to your Successor for reexamination, on the Suggestion that you were not Satisfied with the disposition that had been made of the questions involved, would enable him to take them up free from any embarrassment which might be created by his respect for your declared opinion, and for the decision which had been made by you.—

I have the honor to be,
Very truly,
Your friend & obed.t serv.t

John Forsyth

Letter from
the Secretary
of State to be pre
=served on Execu
=tive file
A. J.
February 1st 1834 —
— J —
re. duties on
wines, etc —

Washington City Jany 1837

Mr. Rains

Sir,

yours of date the
has just been recieved, and I am
somewhat astonished at its contents
but before I say more, it will be well
to lay before you the true state of the
case — some time since — a Mr Holtzclaw
then overseer at the Hermitage — without authority
& which he was governed by — requested Mr McCombs
to take two servants for a given — I was then absent
& when I arrived at home — said I did not want
them — Mr McCombs sent an agent up about
them — and in presence of me & Mr Holtzclaw
said that he could sell the servants — if we did
not want them — I told him to do so — some
months after that Mr McCombs called — & said he
could not sell them — his price was $180 —

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of his being born — & thus I would not take them for $100
after some talk — he insisted upon having something for them — I gave him — $25 — & requested him to sell them for the ballance, at the same time I gave him a little note, saying that if I ever found it convenient I would pay him the ballance $25 — but with no interest or costs — read the note & you will see (Convenient in it — & no specified time to pay — Afterwards he sold the note — & it has been presented to me a dozen of times & I allways said if I had the money about me or if it was convenient I would pay it — now I would suggest to let this man take the screws & sell them — I have never seen them, they are at Dr Shelbys saw mill across the bridge — Mr Broughton never summoned me on the note nor could he I think — I am certain too I paid him the money in last August or September

in the exchange Book Store of Mr Richmond and I have I think his note for the amount at home in Tenn. & I cannot pay it until I come out & see more about it—& if there I defy any man to levy or seize property on that note—& all the property at the Hermitage is the Presidents & therefore I advise you as a friend to have nothing more to do with it until I get out early in March. & if I thought the note binding or just—after what I have done—I would have paid it without a murmur.—

Yrs. Respectfully
A J

Jan, 31- 1837

To the Committee of Investigation of which Mr H. A. Wise is chairman

Being casually informed that Judge White of the Senate of the U States before the said Committee of Investigation into the abuses charged against the Executive Departments has stated that he and myself has had many confidential conversations, and intimating that there was something that would be prejudicial to me (the President). if disclosed. I therefore absolve him from all obligations of confidence in regard to any thing that has passed between us. I wish every conversation had or held with him on all and every subject faithfully disclosed with the time when & the place where and I hope the committee will interogate him as to every point or matter of confidence that ever existed between us January 31st 1837

Signed

Andrew Jackson

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Copy of the Presidents
Letter absolving Judge
White &c To the Committee
of which Mr Wise is
Chairman

[1837, Jan.]

Ac. 421.

Blair & Rives propose to publish Mr Buchanan's speech on the resolution to expunge from the Journal of the Senate the resolution impeaching the conduct of the President in removing the deposits

The price not to exceed $2. per 100 copies

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